



CITY OF OXFORD

---

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

for the year

1938



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## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF, 1938.

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Administrative  
Tuberculosis Officer.*

G. C. WILLIAMS, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Tuberculosis Officer:*

R. J. TOLEMAN, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Eng.).

*Assistant Medical Officers of Health:*

M. FISHER, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.M.S.A.

F. G. J. LISHMAN, M.D. (Hyg.), B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.L.O., D.P.H. (re-  
signed March).

A. MENZIES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.), (from July).

*Tuberculosis Officer (Consulting) to the Chest Clinics (part time).*

W. STOBIE, M.A. (Oxon), M.D., F.R.C.S., J.P.

*Public Vaccinators:*

R. HITCHINGS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (resigned January, 1938).

F. H. DICKSON, M.B., Ch.B. (from January to May, 1938).

L. H. BERTIE, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (from June, 1938).

F. G. PROUDFOOT, M.A., M.D. (Cowley Road Hospital).

W. ARNOTT, M.B. (London Road Hospital).

*Dental Surgeon (part time Maternity and Child Welfare).*

J. F. ALLIN, M.C., L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

*Veterinary Surgeon (part time):*

F. J. TAYLOR, M.R.C.V.S.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector; Sanitary Officer, Oxford University Delegacy of Lodgings:*

\* (b) (c) (e) (f) S. SWIFT, F.R.San.I.

*Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:*

\* (b) C. H. CLARKE.

*District Sanitary Inspectors:*

(a) (b) T. A. FOX, A.R.San.I.

(a) (b) (d) D. WATSON, A.R.San.I.

(a) (b) K. ENGLAND.

(a) (b) R. C. STENTIFORD, A.R.San.I.

(a) (b) E. WITHERFORD (resg. Dec.).

(a) (b) (c) (g) F. A. FAWCETT.

(a) (b) (c) (d) H. H. DICKINSON,

(a) (b) (c) (f) L. R. GODFREY, A.R.San.I.

A.R.San.I.

\* Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

(a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

(b) Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

(c) Sanitary Science Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

(d) Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

(e) Sanitary Inspector's Advanced Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

(f) Diploma in General Hygiene, Institute of Hygiene.

(g) Associate-Membership Certificate, Institute of Sanitary Engineers.

*Senior Health Visitor, Supervisor of Midwives and Inspector under the Shops Act:*

(a) (d) Miss M. J. JACKSON.

*Health Visitors (and School Nurses):*

(a) (b) Miss E. BUTTON (resg. March).	(a) (b) (c) Miss P. SMITH (resg. March).
(b) Miss D. FINUCANE.	(a) (b) (c) Miss M. JONES (resg. Feb.).
(a) (b) (d) Miss E. M. REEVES.	(a) (b) (c) Miss K. PERRYER (from April)
(a) (b) Miss M. INGLE.	(a) (b) Miss W. PRATT (from May).
(a) (b) Miss F. AMOS.	(a) (b) Miss G. DAVIES (from May).
(a) (b) (c) Miss M. P. RICHARDS.	(a) (b) Mrs. E. FRANCIS (from June).
(a) (b) (c) Mrs. L. FOSTER (resg. March).	(a) (b) (c) Miss P. INGERSENT (from Oct.).

*Deputy Supervisor of Midwives:*

(a) (b) Miss P. V. NEEDHAM.

*Midwives:*

(a) Miss E. J. GODFREY.	(a) (b) Miss P. PIKE.
(a) Mrs. A. E. GODFREY.	(a) Miss G. TUCK (from April 1st, 1938).
(a) Miss E. JUDD.	(a) Mrs. E. RICKS (from April 23rd, 1938).

(a) State Certified Midwife.  
 (b) State Registered Nurse.  
 (c) New Health Visitors' Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.  
 (d) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

*Mental Health Visitor:*

Miss M. R. H. BUCK.

*Assistant Mental Health Visitor:*

Miss M. GORDON, M.A., LL.B. (resigned April).  
 Miss M. E. ARMSTRONG (from May to September).  
 Miss V. HARRILD (from October).

*Matron, City Isolation Hospital:*

Miss L. STANLEY.

*Supervisor of Blind Workshops:*

H. G. GIBBS.

*Home Teacher and Welfare Visitor to the Blind:*

Miss M. HOLBOROW.

*Chief Clerk:*

H. G. ANNELY.

*Clerks:*

T. D. THOMSON.	R. L. COLLCUTT.
C. B. STANDEN.	K. H. STEVENS.
Miss N. J. MARTIN.	Miss J. WAY.
Miss O. L. PROWSE.	J. P. MULLARD.
R. A. JUDD.	L. PEARMAN.
K. GOULD (from February).	

*Disinfectors and Ambulance Drivers:*

J. H. THOMAS.  
 A. ELY.  
 W. GILES.

## CITY OF OXFORD.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1938.

It has been a difficult year for the Public Health Department. The organisation and training of the Casualty Services for Air Raid Precautions being responsible for a large amount of extra work outside the normal duties of the Public Health Services.

The Crisis in September meant that the staff were taken off their ordinary duties for a considerable time.

In addition to Air Raid Precautions, a serious epidemic of acute Poliomyelitis caused a further dislocation of the normal services and the statistics cannot be compared fairly with previous years, e.g., attendances at Infant Welfare Centres and other Clinics.

The extra duties placed upon all members of the Department have meant that it has been impossible to undertake any special investigations, and the report for 1938 is, in consequence, merely a record of statistical information which is compiled year by year.

It is my pleasant duty to record my appreciation of the work of the staff of the Department—all the members having cheerfully undertaken onerous and responsible duties outside the normal scope of their work.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. C. WILLIAMS,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*



# VITAL STATISTICS OF THE CITY OF OXFORD DURING 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Net Deaths belonging to the District				
		Uncor- rected No	Nett				of Non- residents registered in the District	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 year		At all Ages		
									No	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	No	Rate	
			No	Rate	No	Rate							No
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1912	53,548		1026	19.16	672	12.55	91	41	71	69.2	622	11.61	
1913	53,948		951	17.62	703	13.03	87	22	79	83.07	638	11.82	
1914	54,348		911	16.8	755	13.89	133	30	66	72.4	652	11.99	
1915	54,478		865	15.79	777	14.19	142	37	62	71.6	672	12.27	
1916	55,148		881	15.97	697	12.64	166	78	59	66.9	609	11.04	
1917	*59,193 53,104 }		656	11.08	756	14.23	150	104	57	86.9	710	13.37	
1918	*55,472 49,508 }		700	12.62	987	19.94	204	94	44	62.8	877	17.71	
1919	*60,071 57,666 }		796	13.25	714	12.38	117	89	47	59.0	686	11.89	
1920	59,963			1083	18.06	635	10.59	93	69	60	55.4	611	10.19
1921	56,400			957	929	16.47	681	12.07	124	42	34	36.6	598
1922	56,510	982		902	15.96	812	14.37	153	62	54	59.8	721	12.75
1923	56,920	997		876	15.39	699	12.28	157	49	39	44.5	594	10.43
1924	57,260	1052		878	15.30	826	14.42	163	21	46	52.4	685	11.94
1925	57,090	1079	882	15.45	815	14.27	190	50	44	49.88	677	11.85	
1926	56,800	1072	852	15.00	813	14.31	194	69	51	59.8	691	12.16	
1927	57,050	1079	848	14.86	847	14.84	194	71	40	47.17	743	13.02	
1928	60,800	1162	836	13.75	766	12.59	204	73	32	38.27	634	10.44	
1929	*70,730 70,590 }		1017	14.37	1082	15.30	216	52	65	63.91	918	13.00	
1930	*74,000 73,810 }		1159	15.66	966	13.08	211	48	47	40.55	803	10.87	
1931	*80,810 80,530 }		1216	15.04	1005	12.48	195	57	54	44.4	867	10.76	
1932	81,260		1397	1114	13.71	1054	12.97	212	49	69	62.94	891	10.96
1933	83,410		1460	1140	13.67	1086	13.02	220	59	37	32.46	925	11.09
1934	85,800	1578	1200	13.98	1104	12.87	280	42	54	45.00	866	10.09	
1935	88,200	1748	1344	15.24	1130	12.81	289	52	41	30.51	893	10.12	
1936	90,140	1787	1379	15.30	1153	12.79	299	62	62	44.96	916	10.16	
1937	92,440	1779	1343	14.53	1193	12.90	297	57	49	36.48	953	10.31	
1938	94,090	1867	1438	15.28	1128	12.00	300	44	51	35.47	872	9.27	

\* Population for Birth Rate.

City extended 1st April, 1929.

## SECTION I

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (Acres):—Old City, 4,719; Extended City, 8,438.

Population (estimated mid year 1938); 94,090.

The birth and death rates for the year are calculated on a civil population 94,090.

Industries—University City, Printing and Motor Works.

Rateable value (1938), £920,016.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £3,627.

Number of inhabited houses, 23,021.

Total cost of all Public Health Services (1938–9), £32,158, gross:  
£27,242 net.

## Extracts from Vital Statistics.

			<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Live Births	{	Legitimate	1379	683	696	} Birth Rate per 1.000 of the estimated resident population, 15.28.
		Illegitimate	59	29	30	
Stillbirths	..	..	47	20	27	Rate per 1000 total (live and still births), 31.65.
Deaths	..	..	872	416	456	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident popu- lation, 9.27.

Comparability Factor .96.

Adjusted Death Rate 8.90.

Deaths from puerperal causes—		<i>Rate per 1000 total (live and still births)</i>
	<i>Deaths</i>	
Puerperal Sepsis	1	0.67
Other Puerperal causes	2	1.35
	—	—
Total	3	2.02
	==	==



Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—

All infants, per 1000 live births, 35.47.

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births, 36.26.

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births, 16.95.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 126.

„ „ Measles (all ages), nil.

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages), 1.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 8.

# CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE CITY OF OXFORD DURING 1938.

(Table of Registrar General).

CAUSES OF DEATH	All Ages.	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES .. .. .	872	51	7	7	10	21	40	42	74	129	219	272
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Measles .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria .. .. .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Influenza .. .. .	9	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3	2
7 Encephalitis lethargica ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal fever ..	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system .. .. .	47	—	—	—	—	6	12	8	7	10	3	1
10 Other tuberculous diseases	9	1	—	2	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
11 Syphilis .. .. .	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
12 General paralysis of the in- sane, tabes dorsalis ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	126	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	20	30	40	22
14 Diabetes .. .. .	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	29	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	7	8	10
16 Heart disease .. .. .	240	—	—	—	2	2	4	2	13	32	76	109
17 Aneurysm .. .. .	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11	19	23
19 Bronchitis .. .. .	16	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	11
20 Pneumonia (all forms) ..	49	5	1	1	1	—	4	4	4	5	13	11
21 Other respiratory diseases	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2
22 Peptic ulcer .. .. .	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	1
23 Diarrhoea, etc. .. .. .	11	7	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
24 Appendicitis .. .. .	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1
25 Cirrhosis of liver .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
27 Other digestive diseases ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	3	5
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	43	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	17	19
29 Puerperal sepsis .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
30 Other puerperal causes ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
31 Congenital debility, prema- ture birth, malforma- tions, etc. .. .. .	32	30	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32 Senility .. .. .	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	17
33 Suicide .. .. .	14	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	5	1	1	—
34 Other violence .. .. .	30	—	—	—	2	5	3	4	4	3	5	4
35 Other defined diseases ..	72	4	1	1	4	2	3	4	4	12	15	22
36 Causes ill-defined, or un- known .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Deaths of Oxford Residents registered away from Oxford are included in, and the deaths of non-residents registered in Oxford are excluded from, the Oxford net Deaths.

### CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table on page 3 gives a short analysis of the causes of death, and the number of deaths occurring in each age group.

The death rate, 9.27, is the lowest yet recorded in Oxford; previously 10.09 recorded in 1934 was the lowest. The reduction does not favour any particular period of life, but is uniformly distributed throughout the various age groups.

There has been a reduction in the number of deaths attributed to influenza from 26 in 1937, to 9 in 1938. Suicides decreased from 19 in 1937 to 14 in 1938, and the number of deaths from other forms of violence fell from the abnormally high figure of 43 recorded in 1937 to a more customary level: 30 being recorded in 1938, in comparison with 29 in 1936. The year was an inter-epidemic one for measles, and no deaths were attributed to that cause.

The number of deaths from heart disease, cancer, and tuberculosis shows little change, the number of deaths due to pneumonia shows an increase of 20 over the previous year.

The Infant Mortality rate, 35.47, and the Maternal Mortality rate, 2.02, both remain low, comparing favourably with the rates in other County Boroughs where conditions are similar.

#### RESIDENTS WHO DIED IN INSTITUTIONS IN OXFORD.

	1937	1938
Radcliffe Infirmary .. .. .	164	143
Radcliffe Infirmary (Maternity Dept.) ..	7	17
City Hospital .. .. .	16	11
Osler Pavilion .. .. .	5	10
Acland Home .. .. .	13	13
Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital ..	4	1
Cowley Road Hospital .. .. .	59	60
London Road Hospital .. .. .	61	60
St. John's Home .. .. .	3	4
St. Basil's Home .. .. .	6	—
Nazareth Home .. .. .	8	3
Eye Hospital .. .. .	1	—
Other Institutions and Nursing Homes ..	10	19
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals .. .. .	357	341
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## RESIDENTS WHO DIED AWAY FROM OXFORD.

	1937	1938
Littlemore Mental Hospital .. ..	15	17
Other Institutions and Nursing Homes ..	15	17
Private Houses .. .. .	19	7
Accidents, etc. .. .. .	8	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals .. .. .	57	44
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## NON-RESIDENTS WHO DIED IN OXFORD.

	1937	1938
Radcliffe Infirmary .. .. .	235	232
Radcliffe Infirmary (Maternity Dept.) ..	11	13
Cowley Road Hospital .. .. .	2	1
London Road Hospital .. .. .	1	3
Osler Pavilion .. .. .	2	5
Warneford Mental Hospital .. .. .	7	3
Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital ..	13	9
Acland Home .. .. .	10	19
Eye Hospital .. .. .	2	1
Other Institutions and Nursing Homes ..	2	4
Private Houses .. .. .	6	4
Accidents .. .. .	6	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals .. .. .	297	300
	<hr/>	<hr/>

97 Inquests were held in Oxford in 1938, of which 45 were on the deaths of residents and 52 on the deaths of non-residents. 4 Inquests were held on the deaths of residents who died away from Oxford.

**CANCER.****Treatment and Diagnosis.**

There are no municipal hospitals in Oxford for the treatment of Cancer and all the necessary treatment is carried out at the Radcliffe Infirmary.

Facilities for diagnosis are available in the ordinary out-patient department of the Radcliffe and there is no special clinic.



Special forms of treatment are carried out at this hospital, i.e.,

(a) *Deep X-ray Therapy.*

290 patients from the City and surrounding areas received treatment during 1938.

(b) *Radium.*

The Radcliffe Infirmary possesses 50 milligrammes of radium, but it appears that this is insufficient for the treatment of all the cases and some have to be sent to London. The surgeon in charge of the Radium Therapy estimates that a further 100 milligrammes would enable the hospital to treat all hopeful cases, and it would only be necessary to send border-line "hopeless" cases to the Radium Institute or Mount Vernon Hospital for "bomb" treatment.

88,708 milligramme hours were used at the hospital during 1938, for 39 patients.

No special arrangements are made by the Local Authority for the following up of cases as it is understood that the medical staff experience no difficulty in getting their patients to attend when required.

The following table shows the deaths from Cancer by age distribution for 1938:

	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
Male .. ..	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	13	18	10
Female ..	76	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	14	17	22	12
Total ..	126	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	20	30	40	22

## SECTION II

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

#### 1. Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

See pages v and vi of this Report.

#### 2. Laboratory Facilities.

At the present time, the laboratory work for the City is carried out in three separate laboratories—the Radcliffe Infirmary Pathological Department, the Royal Institute of Public Health, London, and the National Institute for Research in Dairying, Shinfield, Nr. Reading.

#### 3. Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases, a motor ambulance is provided and kept at the City Isolation Hospital.

For other cases, a motor ambulance is available and kept at the Fire Brigade Headquarters, George Street. It is manned by members of the Brigade between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. After 10 p.m. a general utility van is available, containing two stretcher platforms. This is kept at the City Police Station. The motor ambulances belonging to St. John Ambulance Brigade are available at all times.

A “ Novox ” Resuscitation apparatus for use in cases of gas poisoning, smoke asphyxiation, etc., is kept at the City Police Station for use in emergency

During the year three cases were dealt with (1 drowning, 2 coal gas poisoning). In the latter two cases it was unsuccessful as life was apparently extinct before the arrival of the apparatus, but in the former case it was successfully used.

#### 4. Nursing in the Home.

Oxford City is well served by the Acland District Nurses Association which undertakes all the district nursing, as distinct from midwifery, in the city. The staff now consists of a superintendent, an assistant, and sixteen nurses. During the year, the following work was carried out:—

*General Work.*

Cases .. .. .	2,098 including 229 on books, 1937.
Number of visits paid ..	67,089
New cases sent by—	
Doctors .. ..	1,274
Applied .. ..	353
Hospital .. ..	178
Public Health Dept.	7
Employers .. ..	55
Found by Nurse ..	2—1,869
Results—	
Convalescent ..	1,479
Removed to hospital	184
Died .. ..	172
Removed for other causes .. ..	63
Remaining on books	200—2,098
Visits to Old Age Pensioners (free)	9,452
„ „ Almshouses (free)	554
„ „ Necessitous cases (free)	1,737

The Provident Contributory Scheme continues to make progress, there being now 14,997 members.

The City Council give an annual grant of £200 towards the cost of the work undertaken for the city. Of this amount £50 is allocated to the nursing of children under 5 years of age, £50 towards the nursing of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and £100 per annum as a contribution towards the cost of nursing aged and infirm persons and necessitous cases free of charge.

Owing to the increased population at Headington, the Headington Nursing Association discontinued its work on March 31st, 1938, and the district was taken over by the Acland District Nursing Association.

## 5. Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The following additional Infant Welfare Centre was held during the year:—

Morning session—Thursdays—Donnington.



A full list of clinics and centres is given on pages 18 and 19 from which it will be seen that every form of public medical treatment usually provided is available.

## **6. Poor Law Medical Out Relief.**

The appointment of the part time District Medical Officer in 1937 for the whole of the City has proved very satisfactory, and it is anticipated that when the first year's working ends early in 1939, it will be continued on the same lines.

## **7. Midwives.**

The scheme under the Midwives Act 1936, adopted by the City Council in 1937, has worked very satisfactorily throughout the year.

Owing to the Headington District Nursing Association giving up its Midwifery work at the end of March, it was found necessary to appoint a municipal midwife for this district. During the year a further municipal midwife was appointed, making a total of six municipal midwives for the City.

The grants paid to voluntary organisations assisting in the scheme are now as follows:—

Radcliffe Infirmary—£800 per annum.

Oxford District Nursing Association—£50 per annum.

The number of cases attended by Municipal Midwives during the year was 396.

## **Post Graduate Courses—Midwives.**

Arrangements have been made for one midwife to attend a three weeks' course at the Radcliffe Infirmary Maternity Home, each year.

In addition to the cost of the course being paid by the Council, the salary of the midwife will be paid in full for the whole of the period.

## **Emergency obstetric service.**

During the latter part of the year an agreement was entered into between the Oxfordshire County Council, Oxford City Council and Radcliffe Infirmary, for the provision of an emergency obstetric service. The cost of the equipment was shared in equal portions by the two authorities, and the Radcliffe Infirmary have given an undertaking, to be responsible for keeping it in proper order and ready for use at any time. Each authority will be responsible for the cost of its own cases.

8. **Legislation which came into force in the City during 1938.**

Nil.

9. **Legislation in Force.**

(a) ADOPTIVE ACTS.					<i>Date of Adoption.</i>
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act 1890.	Sect. 4	..	..	..	1904
Public Health Act (Amendment) Act 1890.	III.	Sects. 28/41	..	..	1904
„	„	„	„	„	1907. Part II. Sect. 19, 22, 32, 33 .. 15/2/32
„	„	„	„	„	„ Part IV. Sect. 53, 54 15/2/32
„	„	„	„	„	„ Part VI. Sect. 76 & 77 1924
„	„	„	„	„	„ Part VII. (Except Sect. 80, 82 and 83) .. 1908
Public Health Act 1925.	Part II.	Sect. 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 35	..	..	1/11/31

## (b) LOCAL ACTS.

Oxford Corporation Act 1890.

„ „ „ 1935.

„ „ „ 1933.

„ „ (Water) Acts 1875, 1885, and 1928.

Oxford Extension Act 1928.

## (c) BYELAWS.

Cleansing of Footways and Pavements	..	..	..	15.12.1865
Good Rule and Government of the City	..	..	..	7. 6.1899
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	15. 2.1911
Nuisances in connection with the Removal of Offensive of Noxious Matters	..	..	..	21. 9.1923
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	22.11.1923
New Streets and Buildings	..	..	..	15. 1.1924
Drainage of existing Buildings	..	..	..	22. 1.1924
Good Rule and Government of the City	..	..	..	18. 2.1927
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	8. 2.1930
Good Rule and Government of the City	..	..	..	16. 1.1931
Smoke Abatement	..	..	..	1. 2.1932
Houses-let-in-lodgings	..	..	..	7. 3.1932
Prevention of Nuisances	..	..	..	19. 5.1936
Good Rule and Government of the City	..	..	..	2. 6.1938

## 10. Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.

### **The Oxford and District Joint Hospitals' Board. Report for 1938.**

During 1938 the area served by the Oxford and District Joint Hospitals' Board was considerably extended by the inclusion within the Board of the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, and by the provisional association of the Swindon and North Wilts Victoria Hospital, while, within the City of Oxford, the Warneford Hospital expressed a desire to commence negotiations with a view to association with the Board. It is anticipated that the Oxford and Reading Joint Hospitals' Board will eventually form a unit in the Scheme of hospital regionalisation, which is being established throughout the country.

Internally, it was increasingly recognised that co-ordination of hospital services within the Board's area should precede co-ordination of finance. Thus, an Ear, Nose and Throat Service was inaugurated, under which a Specialist, together with the necessary team, has arranged to visit, at stated intervals, certain of the Associated Hospitals, and it is anticipated that this service will be extended at an early date. The initial steps were also taken to set up a regional blood transfusion service.

With a view to making the best use of the hospital accommodation available within the area, the Board inaugurated during the year a service under which arrangements are made to transfer convalescent patients from the central hospitals to cottage hospitals. This Scheme not only releases beds in the central hospitals, but is a convenience for patients in that they are transferred to hospitals nearer to their homes. As a corollary of this service, a rota of private car owners has been established for transporting to Associated Hospitals convalescent patients whose condition does not make it necessary to travel by ambulance.

The Board has also taken an active part in emergency hospital arrangements, and, as a result of representations regarding the arrangements proposed in the Board's area, the Minister of Health paid a visit to Oxford early in 1939 to meet a deputation from the Board.

At this Meeting the Minister officially recognised the Board as an advisory body to assist the Hospitals' Officer of the Ministry and his agents, the Medical Officers of Health of the City of Oxford and the Counties of Oxfordshire and Berkshire, with emergency hospital arrangements. In order to implement this decision, the Board appointed, at the Minister's suggestion, an Emergency Committee and an Emergency Hospitals' Officer, and considerable progress has since been made in regard to the local application of emergency hospital arrangements in the Joint Board's area.



Financial matters were not, however, neglected. The value of the close co-operation established with the Radcliffe and Associated Hospitals' Contributory Scheme was proved when the Board organised, in association with the Contributory Scheme, a series of Whist Drives which continued throughout the winter and culminated in a Final Drive in Oxford during March, as a result of which a substantial amount of "new money" was raised. It is hoped that the scope of such "special efforts" may be extended in the future, with considerable financial benefit to the Associated Hospitals.

**The Oxford and District Public Medical Service** is a voluntary extension of the medical service already available under the National Health Insurance Acts. At present under those Acts, an insured person is entitled to medical attention but his dependants are not.

The object of the Public Medical Service is to provide for the wives and children of insured workers and others whose family income does not exceed £250 per annum, the same benefits of medical attendance and all ordinary medicines as are received by the insured person, in return for the payment of a small weekly contribution.

Throughout the country there are approximately 80 services in existence, in which medical attendance upon 650,000 subscribers is given by approximately 4,000 doctors.

The Oxford and District Public Medical Service extends beyond the City boundaries as far north as Adderbury; south as far as Chilton; east as far as Thame; and west as far as Filkins.

The principal towns and villages thus included are, Oxford, Abingdon, Didcot, Bicester, Thame, Woodstock, Kidlington, Watlington, Wheatley, Eynsham, Bampton, Islip, and the surrounding districts.

At the beginning of 1939 there were approximately 4,500 subscribing families. and 70 general practitioners were co-operating in the Scheme. It is estimated that 90% of the subscribers are dependants of National Health insured persons.

The rates of subscription are as follows:—

Adults	..	..	..	..	(each)	4d. per week.
Adult and 1 Child	..	..	..	..		7d. per week.
Adult and 2 Children	..	..	..	..		10d. per week.
Adult and 3 Children	..	..	..	..		1/- per week.
Adult and more than 3 Children	..	..	..	..		1/- per week.
Maximum Family Subscription	..	..	..	..		1/- per week.
Entry Fee						1/-

The Committee has an arrangement with the principal Friendly Societies in the Oxford district whereby medical attendance to the same extent as that given to Public Medical Service subscribers is provided by the co-operating practitioners of the Service. Under this arrangement, the Societies collect the subscriptions from their members and pay an agreed capitation fee at the end of each quarter of the year to the Service in respect of these members.

The amount received for each doctor by the collectors is allocated to the doctor at the end of each quarter together with the amount due to him in respect of Capitation Fees for his Friendly Society patients, less a deduction for administration expenditure.

The Service has offices at No. 2 King Edward Street, Oxford, and at No. 12 Stert Street, Abingdon, Berks.

# SUMMARY OF THE WORK AND CAPACITY OF THE CITY'S PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.

Name.	Address.	Type of Hospital or Institution.	Available Beds.		If used by persons living outside Oxford.	Proportion of Oxford Beds.	Management.	Comments.
			Male	Female Children				
<div> <div>Voluntary Hospitals.</div> <div>Joint Committee Local Authorities.</div> </div>	1. RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY AND COUNTY HOSPITAL	General { Medical Surgical	38 92	43 99	21 29	Yes	approx. 1/2	City pays for cases of certain notifiable diseases. Additional 58 Beds not specially allocated.
	2. OSLER PAVILION, RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY	Tuberculosis	26	26	—	Yes	1/2	City maintains 26 Beds for City patients.
	3. MATERNITY HOME, RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY	Maternity	—	37	—	Yes	approx. 1/2	Additional 7 Beds for private patients. City makes a grant towards cost of patients.
	4. RECOVERY WARD, RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY	General	13	17	—	Yes	Voluntary Committee of management	Radcliffe Infirmary patients only. Beds for children not specially allocated.
	5. WINGFIELD-MORRIS ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL	Orthopaedic	22	20	108	Yes	approx. 1/5	Additional 20 beds for private patients. " 10 beds in Isolation Block.
	6. OXFORD EYE HOSPITAL	Eye	13	13	2 (cots)	Yes	1/4	Additional 5 beds for private patients. " 2 beds in Isolation Ward and 2 swing cots.
	7. WARNEFORD MENTAL HOSPITAL	Registered Mental Hospital	69	75	—	Yes	Voluntary Committee of management	Paying patients only.
<div> <div>Joint Committee Local Authorities.</div> <div>Oxford County Borough</div> </div>	8. OXFORD CITY AND COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL	Public Mental Hospital	329	556	—	Yes	—	Joint Hospital Committee
	9. BOROCOURT	Institution for Mental Defectives	166	251	—	Yes	1/4	Joint Hospital Committee
	10. COWLEY ROAD INFIRMARY	Poor Law Infirmary	53	43	4	No	—	Public Assistance Committee
	11. LONDON ROAD INFIRMARY	Poor Law Infirmary	36	46	—	No	—	Public Assistance Committee
	12. CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL	{ Fever Tuberculosis	48 14		—	No	—	Public Health Committee
	13. CITY SMALLPOX HOSPITAL	Smallpox	4 or 5	5 or 4	—	No	—	Public Health Committee

Oxford County Borough

Joint Committee Local Authorities.

Voluntary Hospitals.



## **A. VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.**

### **(1) Radcliffe Infirmary and County Hospital.**

This is a general hospital with medical, surgical and special departments receiving patients from the city and adjacent counties.

During the year the following extensions were completed:—

Ward for Nuffield Professor of Surgery.

„ „ „ Obstetrics and Gynaecology.  
Biochemistry Department.

Anaesthetics „

### **(2) Radcliffe Infirmary Maternity Home.**

This home still carries on the major portion of the maternity service in the City. It contains 44 beds, 7 of which are private beds.

During the year the extension of the Maternity Department containing ten isolation beds, an operating theatre and a new out-patients' department was commenced.

### **(3) Radcliffe Infirmary Recovery Ward.**

This Recovery Ward or Convalescent Home is situated on the Manor Road Estate at Headington.

Only Radcliffe Infirmary patients are admitted.

### **(4) Osler Pavilion (Radcliffe Infirmary).**

The accommodation at this Sanatorium is now 52 beds, which the city and county share equally.

At the close of the year plans were still under consideration for the provision of 12 extra beds for city patients.

### **(5) Wingfield Morris Orthopaedic Hospital.**

This is a hospital specialising in the treatment of all bone and joint diseases including tuberculosis. The city has an agreement with the hospital whereby a minimum of 7 beds are reserved, in payment of a fixed yearly grant, for the treatment of city patients suffering from bone and joint tuberculosis.

During the year a new block was completed which will be used mainly for clinical records and research.



## B. COWLEY ROAD AND LONDON ROAD POOR LAW INFIRMARIES.

The following tables describing the work in 1938 give an indication of the extent to which these institutions are utilised in the treatment of the sick.

Classification of the accommodation for the sick, and the number of beds occupied at the Cowley Road and London Road Institutions on the 31st December, 1938.

Wards	Number of Wards		Men				Women and Children				Total—Both Institutions	
	Cowley Road	London Road	Cowley Road		London Road		Cowley Road		London Road		Pro-vided	Occu-pied
			Pro-vided	Occu-pied	Pro-vided	Occu-pied	Pro-vided	Occu-pied	Pro-vided	Occu-pied		
Chronic Sick ..	13	10	48	48	30	27	38	36	48	47	164	158
Children .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	2
Venereal .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ..	5 Huts	1 Hut	3	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	7	2
Isolation .. ..	1	1	2	1	6	6	—	—	—	—	8	7
Maternity .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	4	4
Mental .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mental Defectives	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other (Verandah) .	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	—	—	8	8
Totals	15 W'ds 5 Huts 1 Veran- dah.	11 W'ds 1 Hut	53	49	36	33	54	50	50	49	193	181

Statistics relating to the period from the 1st January to the 31st December, 1938, in regard to in-patients.

	Cowley Road.	London Road.	Total.
Total number of admissions .. ..	288	140	428
Number of maternity cases admitted .. ..	34	—	34
Total number of deaths .. ..	61	63	124
Number of patients discharged .. ..	182	74	256
Number of beds occupied .. ..			
(a) Average .. ..	87	75.8	162.8
(b) Highest .. ..	101	82	183
(c) Lowest .. ..	78	70	148

Classification of in-patients who were discharged from or who died in the Institutions during the period *1st January to 31st December, 1938.*

	Cowley Road.	London Road.	Total.
	Disch. Died	Disch. Died	Disch. Died
A. Acute infectious disease .. .. .	— —	2 2	2 2
B. Influenza .. .. .	5 —	1 2	6 2
C. Tuberculosis (1) Pulmonary .. .. .	— 1	3 —	3 1
(2) Non-Pulmonary .. .. .	— —	— —	— —
D. Malignant Disease (Cancer) .. .. .	— 8	7 12	7 20
E. Rheumatism (1) Acute .. .. .	1 —	— —	1 —
(2) Sub-acute .. .. .	1 —	4 —	5 —
(3) Chronic Arthritis .. .. .	1 —	1 —	2 —
F. Venereal Disease .. .. .	1 —	— —	1 —
G. Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	— —	— —	— —
H. Other accidents and diseases connected with child bearing .. .. .	3 —	— —	3 —
I. Mental Diseases .. .. .	6 —	4 4	10 4
*J. Senile Decay .. .. .	6 7	23 10	29 17
K. Violence .. .. .	8 1	— —	8 1
<b>In respect of cases not included above.</b>			
L. Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs .. .. .	19 9	2 3	21 12
M. Diseases of the Respiratory System .. .. .	12 7	4 6	16 13
N. Diseases of the Circulatory System .. .. .	16 20	9 18	25 38
O. Diseases of the Digestive System .. .. .	28 —	3 1	31 1
P. Diseases of the Genito-urinary System .. .. .	3 6	3 4	6 10
Q. Diseases of the Skin .. .. .	5 1	4 1	9 2
R. Other Diseases .. .. .	5 1	4 —	9 1
S. Mothers and Infants from { Mothers	29 —	— —	29 —
Maternity Ward { Infants	28 —	— —	28 —
T. Any persons not falling under above head- ings .. .. .	5 —	— —	5 —
Totals .. .. .	182 61	74 63	256 124

\* Confined to cases and deaths in which no more specific diagnosis was practicable.

## 11. Maternity and Nursing Homes.

A full report will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

## 12. Maternal Mortality.

All maternal deaths are investigated by the medical staff of the Public Health Department, and confidential reports are sent to the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health. Short summaries will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia are also investigated and arrangements exist whereby doctors can obtain specialists' advice, if necessary. Severe cases are admitted to the Radcliffe Infirmary.

## 13. Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers.

There is no special institutional provision for unmarried mothers, although they are admitted to the Cowley Road Poor Law Infirmary, and, if necessary, to the Radcliffe Maternity Home.

## 14. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

District.		Centres.		
Headington	..	Bury Knowle, High St., Old Headington	Wednesday	2.0 —4
			Thursday	2.0 —4
Cowley	..	St. Francis Hall, Cowley .. .. .	Wednesday	2.30—4
Cowley & Iffley	..	Congregational Church, Cowley .. .. .	Friday	2.0 —4
Wolvercote	..	Village Hall .. .. .	Thursday	2.30—4
East Oxford	..	(1) Health Centre, Cowley Road .. .. .	Friday	2.30—4
East Oxford	..	(2) Health Centre, Cowley Road .. .. .	Monday	2.30—4
East Oxford	..	(3) Congregational Schoolroom, Cowley Road .. .. .	Friday	2.30—4
			Friday	2.30—4
South Oxford	..	Church Room, Canning Crescent, Hinksey	Tuesday	2.30—4
St. Aldate's	..	Rectory Room, Pembroke Street .. .. .	Friday	2.30—4
Jericho	..	Radcliffe Maternity Home, Walton St.	Tuesday	2.30—4
Osney	..	Pavilion, Botley Rd. Recreation Ground	Wednesday	2.30—4
Summertown	..	Church Hall, George St., Summertown	Wednesday	2.30—4
Marston	..	Church Hall, Main Road .. .. .	Wednesday	2.30—4
			Thursday	2.30—4
Cowley & Iffley	..	Donnington School, Henley Avenue .. .. .	Tuesday	2.0 —4
			Wednesday	2.0 —4

### Infant Consultation Centre.

A Clinic for sick babies is held as follows:—

Radcliffe Infirmary .. .. . Thursdays .. 2.0 p.m.



**Ante Natal and Post-Natal Department.**

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics are held as follows:—

East Oxford Health Centre .. .. .	Tuesdays ..	9.30 a.m.
Radcliffe Infirmary Maternity Department	Mondays ..	4.30 p.m.
	Wednesdays ..	10.30 a.m.
	Thursdays ..	4.30 p.m.
	Fridays ..	2.0 p.m.
(Post-Natal)	Tuesdays ..	11.0 a.m.
„	Wednesdays ..	2.30 p.m.
School Medical Room, 60 St. Aldate's ..	Thursdays ..	9.30 a.m.
Bury Knowle, High Street, Old Headington	Fridays ..	9.30 a.m.
Donnington School, Henley Avenue .. ..	Wednesdays ..	9.30 a.m.

**IMMUNISATION.**

Patients are immunised by appointment, which may be made on application at the Public Health Department.

**DENTAL DEPARTMENT.**

A Dental Clinic for expectant and nursing mothers and children of pre-school age is held every Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, at 60 St. Aldate's.

**CHEST CLINICS.**

Radcliffe Infirmary, Tuesdays at 5.30 p.m.      Fridays at 11 a.m.  
Osler Pavilion, Mondays at 5.15 p.m. (for Headington patients).

**VENEREAL DISEASES DEPARTMENT.**

Clinics are held at the Radcliffe Infirmary as follows:—

<b>Men.</b>			<b>Women.</b>		
Wednesdays	..	6 p.m.	Mondays	..	6 p.m.
Saturdays	..	3 p.m.	Wednesdays	..	3 p.m.

**SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.****Minor Ailment Clinics.**

East Oxford Health Centre, Cowley Road	..	Monday	..	9.15 a.m.
Donnington School, Henley Avenue	.. ..	Friday	..	9.15 a.m.
Cowley Congregational Schoolroom, Temple Rd.		Wednesday	..	9.15 a.m.
60 St. Aldate's	.. .. .	Tuesday	..	9.15 a.m.
Headington Council School	.. ..	Monday	..	11.0 a.m.
Headington Council School	.. ..	Thursday	..	9.15 a.m.
60 St. Aldate's	.. .. .	Friday	..	9.15 a.m.
Congregational School Room, George St., Summer-town	.. .. .	Tuesday	..	9.15 a.m.

Clinic for delicate school children (School Medical Service) is held at the Radcliffe Infirmary on Tuesdays at 11 a.m.

**Educational (Child Guidance) Clinic.**

Bury Knowle . . . Mondays at 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. (by appointment only).

**Dental Clinic.**

At 60 St. Aldate's, open daily from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., cases by appointment. Open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon for emergency cases.

**Ophthalmic and Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.**

Diseases of the Eyes and Ear, Nose and Throat are treated at the Eye Hospital, Walton Street, and at the Radcliffe Infirmary respectively. Children are recommended for treatment by the School Medical Officer.

**15. Welfare of the Blind.**

The administration of the Blind Persons Act 1920 was transferred to the City Council on April 1st, 1930, and in April, 1931, these duties were taken over by the Public Health Committee.

A scheme made by the City Council on 31st October, 1932, was approved by the Minister of Health in March, 1933.

The following addition was made to Clause 9 of the scheme by the City Council on April 6th, 1936, and approved by the Ministry of Health on April 14th, 1936:—"to install and maintain or assist in the installation and maintenance of wireless sets for blind persons in Oxford and to consider applications for assistance under this scheme on their merits."

**Registration.**

During the year 21 new cases (9 males, 12 females) were added to the register, of which 6 were transfers from other areas.

**Deaths.**

There were 8 deaths (1 male, 7 females).

**Transfers.**

2 cases removed from Oxford during the year.

**Unemployable Blind.**

A scheme under Section 2 of the Blind Persons Act 1920 for the provision of domiciliary assistance to unemployable and other necessitous blind persons was made by the City Council on the 4th March, 1935, confirmed by the Ministry of Health on 11th March, 1935, and came into operation on 1st April, 1935.

The main points are as follows:—

**Domiciliary Assistance to Unemployable Blind Persons.**

1. (i) The income of unemployable blind persons who are ordinarily resident in the County Borough of Oxford and who have attained the age of sixteen years shall be augmented, where necessary, by such amount as will be required, after taking into account the existing means of the blind person, to ensure that each will have an income of 22/6 per week or such other sum as the Council may from time to time determine.

(ii) In the case of a man and wife both of whom are blind and unemployable and reside in the same house, the amount of financial assistance shall be such amount as may be necessary to ensure that they will have a joint income of 40/- per week or such other sum as the Council may from time to time determine.

(iii) A blind woman with an able bodied husband not certified as "blind" and a blind woman living apart from her husband shall be eligible to receive such financial assistance as may be determined on the merits of each individual case, but unless the circumstances are exceptional no assistance will be given to blind women with able-bodied husbands in employment.

**Domiciliary Assistance to other Blind Persons.**

2. The amount of domiciliary assistance to be given where necessary to blind persons partly employed or wholly employed, who are unable to completely maintain themselves, or to other necessitous blind persons not coming within the definition of an "unemployable blind person," shall be determined on the merits of each individual case, but such assistance shall not exceed the sum necessary to bring the income of blind persons concerned up to the standard income. In considering the circumstances of each case regard shall be had to the necessity of encouraging the recipients to undergo training if capable of being trained, or to follow some regular employment if capable of being employed.

In September 1937 the Council adopted the recommendations of the Blind Persons Act Committee that all blind persons in receipt of grants should receive an extra two shillings weekly for the provision of extra coal, etc., during the winter months October—March. Early in the year this was increased; to operate all the year round so that the income of all blind persons is now made up to 24/6 weekly.

On April 1st, 1938, the Blind Persons Act 1938 came into operation, the main points being:—



(1) Lowering of age at which non-contributory old age pensions may be paid to blind persons.

(2) Recovery of cost of assistance by one local authority from another.

(3) Financial assistance to dependants of blind persons where necessary.

(4) Payment of funeral expenses of blind persons and dependants where necessary.

In May, 1938, the Council adopted the scale agreed upon by the Blind Persons Act Committee regarding financial assistance to dependants of blind persons. The scale is as follows:—

Adults (excluding workers of 14 years of age upwards)	9/-	per week.
Children—1st child .. .. .	5/-	per week.
2nd child .. .. .	4/-	per week.
others .. .. .	3/-	per week.

The number of unemployable blind persons receiving grants on December 31st, 1938, was 70, an increase of 8 over the previous year, the relief varying from 2/6 to 24/6 weekly.

The number of dependants of blind persons receiving grants was 5.

The total cost for the year was £1,964.

### **Home Teaching and Welfare Visiting.**

The work of the home teacher steadily increases both in the administration of the grants and the visiting of other cases on the register. During the year 2214 visits were paid to the homes of blind persons; 29 lessons given in Braille and Moon; and 27 books were loaned.

### **Social Centres.**

The Social centres which were commenced early in 1937 have proved very successful. Meetings are held once a month and various social events are organised. The Blind Persons Act Committee now undertake the responsibility for the cost to enable this branch of Social activity to be continued.

### **Workshop Workers.**

The scheme for the minimum rates of pay to workers adopted in April 1935, was continued.

The rates are reviewed in January of each year in the light of average weekly earnings for the previous twelve months and adjustments are



made if necessary. The following were the minimum weekly rates during 1938 as compared with the previous year:—

<i>Males.</i>	1937	1938	<i>Females.</i>	1937	1938
Basket worker	45/-	47/-	Machine knitters	30/-	30/-
„ „	43/-	45/-	Brush maker	30/-	30/-
Mat maker	45/-	47/-			
Brush maker	30/-	31/-			
Carpenter	35/-	35/-			

The workers have been kept occupied throughout the year and the standard of work has been fully maintained.

### Sales.

Whenever possible, arrangements are made to have a stall at local shows for the sale of goods, and in this way £15 was realised during the year. The total sales for the year were £894, an increase of £67 over the previous year.

### Public Health Act 1936. Section 176.

No action was necessary under the section during the year as facilities are available for the prevention of blindness and treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes at the Oxford Eye Hospital.

The number of blind persons in the City and registered at the 31st December, 1937, under the Blind Persons Act 1920, with the age, incidence of blindness, employment, occupation, physical and mental condition, is shown in the following tables.

#### REGISTRATION.

Age period.	M.	F.	T.
0—5	—	—	—
5—16	3	—	3
16—21	—	—	—
21—30	4	5	9
30—40	8	4	12
40—50	7	5	12
50—60	10	12	22
60—70	13	7	20
70—	21	46	67
Totals	66	79	145

#### AGE INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS.

Age period.	M.	F.	T.
0—1	10	8	18
1—5	2	2	4
5—10	2	1	3
10—20	6	4	10
20—30	9	8	17
30—40	4	6	10
40—50	8	3	11
50—60	7	5	12
60—70	10	22	32
70—	6	18	24
Unknown	2	2	4
Totals	66	79	145

**EMPLOYMENT—AGE PERIOD 16 AND UPWARDS.**

	Employed.	Trained but Un- employed.	Under Training.	No train- ing but trainable.	Unem- ployable.	Totals.
M.	21	—	—	—	42	63
F.	4	—	—	—	75	79
Totals	25	—	—	—	117	142

**OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED.**

Basket and Cane Workers ..	6	Massage .. ..	2
Brush Makers .. ..	2	Mat Makers .. ..	2
Carpenters .. ..	2	Shorthand Typist .. ..	1
Knitters (Hand) .. ..	1	Tea Salesman .. ..	1
(Machine) .. ..	1	Miscellaneous .. ..	4
Pianoforte Tuners .. ..	2		
Pianoforte Teachers .. ..	1	Total .. ..	25

**PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.**

	(a) Mentally Defective.	(b) Physically Defective.	(c) Deaf.	Combina- tion of (a) (b) and (c)	Totals.
M	2	5	4	—	11
F	2	5	3	—	10
Totals	4	10	7	—	21

## SCHOOL AGE PERIOD (5—16) according to mental or physical defects.

At Special School		Normal	(a) Men- tally de- fective	(b) Physi- cally de- fective	(c) Deaf	Combin- ation (a), (b) and (c)	Total in age period	Total defec- tives in age period	Percen- tage of defec- tives in total
	M	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Not at School	M	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	100
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	100
	Grand Totals	2	1	—	—	—	3	1	33.0

The Blind population at 31st December, 1938, was 1.54 per 1,000 population, or 1 in 649.

## REPORT BY MISS M. R. H. BUCK.

SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH VISITOR.

*Mental Deficiency Acts 1913, 1927.*

*Mental Treatment Act 1930.*

There has been no alteration in the general organisation of the work during the year but progress has been made in the provision of accommodation available. Four new villas at Borocourt are now ready for the admission of patients and transfers will be made in the near future. The Joint Board for the City and County Mental Hospital are envisaging the appointment during the coming year of a Psychiatric Social Worker for the Hospital and the Adult Out-patient Clinics. If this appointment is made it will liberate the present workers from this part of the work and they will have more time at their disposal for dealing with the children attending the Educational Clinic. This will be very valuable and it is hoped that it will be possible to get more satisfactory results from the treatment at the Children's Clinic if a closer contact with the parents can be established.

### Registration.

During the year the following cases were added to the register:—

Mental Deficiency	..	..	34
Mental Treatment	..	..	32
Educational Clinic	..	..	103

### Training.

The Occupation Centre at Bayswater Rise has continued on the same lines as before. An additional male instructor has been appointed to deal with a class of older boys. There are 55 names on the books of whom 53 are under Statutory Supervision. The Home Teacher continues to visit 8 cases in their homes.

### Supervision.

There are 133 cases under Statutory Supervision in the City. The Assistant Mental Health Visitor being now a full time worker has undertaken the responsibility for visiting all these patients quarterly. There are 108 cases under Voluntary Supervision most of whom are also visited by the Assistant Mental Health Visitor,



### Institutional Care.

There are 144 cases at present in institutions (65 males and 79 females). Eleven patients are on licence from institutions (9 males and 2 females). All of these are in regular employment.

Of the 144 cases in institutions at the present time 57 (9 males and 48 females) are at Borocourt. The other 87 cases are distributed as follows:—

Institution	Males	Females
Alton .. .. .	—	2
Aylesbury .. .. .	—	1
Basingstoke .. .. .	—	1
Besford Court .. .. .	9	—
Brentry .. .. .	1	—
Buntingford .. .. .	18	—
Cell Barnes, St. Albans .. .. .	7	6
Chipping Norton .. .. .	4	4
Cumnor Rise .. .. .	—	5
Easthampstead .. .. .	1	—
Etloe House .. .. .	—	1
Ellen Terry, Reigate .. .. .	1	1
Frensham .. .. .	7	—
Hortham Colony .. .. .	3	3
Sheffield .. .. .	—	2
Stapleton .. .. .	1	—
Stoke Park .. .. .	2	1
Totterdown Hall .. .. .	—	6
	54	33

The extensions at Borocourt are now completed and it is hoped to transfer as many cases as are suitable during the year. No provision has as yet been made for children, however, so that there are still a large number of cases who will be unsuitable for transfer. An arrangement has been made with the Bucks County Council for the exchange of 6 beds for girls at the Manor House, Aylesbury, for 6 adult male beds at Borocourt. The Joint Board will consider the provision of beds for children in their next extension at Borocourt.

### Guardianship.

There are 25 cases under guardianship (8 males and 17 females).

Of these 10 are under the care of the Brighton Guardianship Society and 1 of the London Guardianship Society. The other 14 are with foster parents or in their own homes.

#### **Notifications from the Education Committee.**

22 new cases have been notified during the year from the Education Committee as being mentally defective and unsuitable for education in a Special School. Of these 2 (1 boy and 1 girl) have been placed in institutions and 20 (10 boys and 10 girls) have been placed under Statutory Supervision, and are attending the Occupation Centre.

#### **Mental Treatment Act.**

By courtesy of the Radcliffe Infirmary we are including the following figures of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic for Early Mental Disorders. The Senior Mental Health Visitor continues to attend this Clinic twice weekly and to act as Social Worker.

Total number of new cases who have attended during the year, 161.

The total number of attendances made during the year was 1370.

## **PROPAGANDA.**

In January a meeting was held in the Town Hall in connection with the National Health Campaign. It was well attended by the public and after speeches by Mr. Kenneth Lindsay, M.P., Mr. Ben Smith, M.P. and the late Capt. Rt. Hon. R. C. Bourne, M.P., a display by members of the "Keep Fit" and Physical Training Classes was given.

### **Lectures.**

Several lectures were given by members of the staff to various organisations during the year.

It has been very difficult to obtain new material for the lectures that have been given, but now that a "Gebescope" talking projector has been purchased it will be possible to augment future lectures with suitable talking films of which there is a good selection obtainable.

## SECTION III

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

REPORT BY STEWART SWIFT, F.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., Assoc. M.C.T.,  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The work of the Sanitary Department comprises Sections III, IV and V of this Report, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the District, Housing, and the Inspection and Supervision of Food, respectively.

*(a)* **Water Supply.**

The following precautions are taken to ensure the purity of the water supply:—

(1) The Waterworks staff have all been examined, and the clinical history of each man investigated with reference to enteric infection. All the men have had a Widal blood test, for Bact. Typhosus “H”, “O” and “VI” and Bact. Paratyphosus “B”, “H” and “O”. In every case of positive agglutination, the bacteriologist reported that there was no indication of infection. The staff have been instructed to report any illness, however slight.

(2) Instructions are given to employees of the Waterworks Committee as below:—

“ It is of the utmost importance that all constructional or maintenance work in connection with the storage or distribution of pure water should be carried out so as to avoid any risk of contaminating the supply.

The following instructions must therefore be rigidly adhered to and any breach of them by an employee will render him liable to dismissal.

## NEW MAINS.

After connection with the supply, but before being used to convey water to consumers, all new mains or extensions must be thoroughly flushed with clean water. Where possible, chlorinated water shall be used for this purpose.



### REPAIRS TO MAINS.

After mains have been cut and repaired thorough flushing as in the case of new mains shall be carried out before the main is put into use again.

### CLEANING AND REPAIRS TO RESERVOIRS, ETC.

Where work is proceeding in any reservoir, sump channel or other structure used for the storage or conveyance of pure water, the water therefrom must be cut out of supply or pumped to waste.

The workmen shall wear clean overalls and rubber boots, the boots must be sterilised with chlorinated water *on every occasion* before the men enter the reservoir or structure.

Proper sanitary arrangements shall be provided at the surface and so designed as to prevent fouling of the men's boots.

All wants of nature must be attended to outside and away from the scene of work and any such action inside the reservoir or structure is *strictly forbidden*.

On completion of the work, the reservoir or structure shall be thoroughly sluiced with clean chlorinated water and whenever possible samples shall be taken for bacteriological analysis before the water is passed to the consumer.

### MACHINERY, ETC.

Any pump, fittings or apparatus which have been removed from a sump or other structure containing pure water must be thoroughly cleansed with chlorinated water before being replaced.

New pumps, fittings or apparatus must be similarly cleansed before being installed.

### GENERAL.

The co-operation of all employees is sought in maintaining a high standard of purity of the water and reports from workmen will be welcomed of any occurrence or matter which might lead to contamination of the supply."

#### (3) Safeguarding the supply—

(a) The Thames Conservancy make inspections of the source of supply, regarding possible sources of pollution of the river above the intake at Swinford.

(b) Two analyses of the treated water are made weekly, and monthly samples of the raw river water are taken.

(c) The treatment of the water provides for two lines of defence, i.e., filtration and chlorination.

I am indebted to the City Engineer (Mr. A. Carstairs) for the following information.

The total quantity of water filtered at the Swinford Works and pumped to Beacon Hill Reservoir during the year was 1,429,307,000 gallons, an increase of 89,976,000 gallons over the previous year.

The average consumption of water per head per day was 36.2 gallons.

Numerous extension of mains within the City, to afford supplies to new Estates and buildings have been carried out.

### Sample Chemical Analysis.

#### Physical Characters.

Reaction	..	..	..	Alkaline.
Colour in 2-ft. stratum	..	..	..	Clear pale green.
Suspended matters	..	..	..	Nil.

#### Chemical Characters.

				<i>Parts per</i> 100,000	<i>Grains per</i> <i>gallon.</i>
Total solids dried at 100°C.	..	..	..	29.50	20.65
Loss on ignition (after re-carbonating)	..	..	..	4.50	3.15
Chlorine in chlorides	..	..	..	2.20	1.54
Chlorine $\times 1.647 =$ Sodium chloride	..	..	..	3.62	2.53
Nitrites	..	..	..	Nil.	—
Nitrogen as nitrates	..	..	..	0.20	0.14
Saline Ammonia	..	..	..	0.002	0.0014
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	0.014	0.009
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°C.	..	..	..	0.10	0.07
Hardness—Total	..	..	..	17.0	11.90
Temporary	..	..	..	9.5	6.65
Permanent	..	..	..	7.5	5.25
Poisonous Metals—Lead	..	..	..	Nil.	—
Copper	..	..	..	Nil.	—

From a consideration of the above data no exception can be taken to this water upon chemical grounds.

### Sample Bacteriological Examination.

#### Quantitative Enumeration of Bacteria:

On Agar plates kept for two days at 37°C. 22 colonies per 1 c.c. developed.

On Agar plates kept for four days at 20°—22°C. 25 colonies per 1c.c. developed.

#### Examination for special bacteria.

Coliform bacilli	..	..	..	..	absent in 100 c.c.
Streptococci	..	..	..	..	absent in 100 c.c.
B. Enteritidis Sporogenes	..	..	..	..	present in 100 c.c.

From a consideration of the data no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes upon bacteriological grounds.

During the year 5 samples of water were obtained from wells and pumps and submitted for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination.

Four of the samples were found to be satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

8 samples of City water, obtained at different addresses, were examined during the year. The chemical and bacteriological reports showed that the water was satisfactory for domestic purposes.

#### (b) Drainage.

In 1938 the following drainage work was carried out under the supervision of the Department.

Drains examined	..	..	..	..	..	33
Drains cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	31
Drains repaired or reconstructed				..	..	50
Premised drained to sewer		..	..	..	..	2
Soil pipes or vent shafts repaired				..	..	33
Interceptors provided	..	..	..	..	..	7
Inspection chambers provided	..	..	..	..	..	27
Fresh air inlets fixed	..	..	..	..	..	8
Vent shafts provided	..	..	..	..	..	7
New gullies provided	..	..	..	..	..	24
Miscellaneous drainage items	..	..	..	..	..	51

(c) **Closet Accommodation.**

During the year the following work was carried out:—

New W.C. basins provided	..	..	..	177
W.C. cistern or fittings repaired	..	..	..	65
W.C. compartments repaired	..	..	..	145
W.C. compartments rebuilt	..	..	..	22
Miscellaneous items	..	..	..	123

(d) **Sanitary Inspection of the District.**

## (1) NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS.

During the year 1938 the following inspections were made by the sanitary staff to the premises detailed:—

<i>Nature of Inspection.</i>						<i>No. of Visits.</i>
<i>General Sanitation.</i>						
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	60
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	375
Stables and Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	225
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	3
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	46
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	..	..	116
Houses-let-in-Lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	21
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	115
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	91
Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	17
Workplaces	..	..	..	..	..	2
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	—
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	37
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	1
Theatres and Places of Entertainment and Licenced Premises	..	..	..	..	..	5
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	16
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	28
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	184
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	115
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	—
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	427
Canal Boats	..	..	..	..	..	46
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	489
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	551
Carried forward	..	..	..	..	—	2,970



<i>Nature of Inspection.</i>					<i>No. of Visits.</i>
Brought forward .. .. .					2,970
<i>Housing.</i>					
Under Public Health Acts:					
No. of houses inspected	..	..	13		
Visits paid to above houses	..	..		85	
Under Housing Acts:					
No. of houses inspected	..	..	764		
Visits paid to above houses	..	..		8,432	
Overcrowding:					
No. of houses inspected	..	..	12		
Visits paid to above houses	..	..		402	
Verminous Premises:					
No. of houses inspected	..	..	32		
Visits paid to above houses	..	..		110	
University Lodgings	..	..		1,401	
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	..	..		134	
					— 10,564
<i>Infectious Diseases.</i>					
Total Visits	..	..	..	..	3
Visits in connection with the inspection and supervision of Food (See Section V for details) .. .. .					
					8,337
Total visits paid by Sanitary Staff					<u>21,874</u>

## (2) NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.

To secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions dangerous to health, the following action was taken:—

No. of informal notices served	..	..	..	396
No. of informal notices complied with	..	..	..	331
No. of statutory notices served	..	..	..	51
No. of statutory notices complied with	..	..	..	63

## (3) COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year 303 complaints were received and attended to relating to the following matters:—

<i>Nature of Complaint.</i>						<i>No. received.</i>
Choked drains	..	..	..	..	..	17
Defective drains	..	..	..	..	..	8
Defective waterclosets	..	..	..	..	..	11
Offensive smell	..	..	..	..	..	35
General housing defects	..	..	..	..	..	53
Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	16
Smoke nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	12
Noise nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dirty premises	..	..	..	..	..	8
Verminous premises	..	..	..	..	..	9
Keeping of animals	..	..	..	..	..	12
Insect pests	..	..	..	..	..	10
Rats and mice infestation	..	..	..	..	..	43
Accumulation of refuse	..	..	..	..	..	13
Dustbins not emptied	..	..	..	..	..	16
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	4
Caravan dwellers	..	..	..	..	..	—
Request to call	..	..	..	..	..	17
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	16
Total						303

Each complaint is investigated and any necessary action taken.

#### (4) RECORD OF NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE.

During the year 1938, the total number of nuisances abated or work done, either as a result of informal or statutory action, is as follows:—

i.	As a result of informal notice	..	..	..	8,378
ii.	As a result of statutory action	..	..	..	2,164
Total					10,542

#### (e) **Smoke Abatement.**

*Public Health Act 1936.*

The problem of atmospheric pollution in Oxford, is mainly a domestic one, but there are 28 factories or works with chimneys.

115 visits were paid regarding the emission of smoke and other nuisances in respect of the emission of grit, etc.

The Byelaw of the City Council adopted under the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, prescribes that where dense black smoke is emitted for a period of two minutes in the aggregate in any continuous period of thirty minutes, a nuisance is committed.

(f) **Factories and Workshops.**

*Factory and Workshop Act 1901.*

*Factories Act 1937.*

The following tables show the inspections of factories, workshops and workplaces, together with the defects found and remedied.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	91	17	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	17	—	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	2	—	—
Totals .. .. .	110	17	—

## 2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<b>NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:—</b>				
Want of cleanliness .. .. .	3	3	—	—
Want of ventilation .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances .. .. .	7	7	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation {	insufficient ..	—	—	—
	unsuitable or defective ..	7	7	—
	not separate	—	—	—
	for sexes ..	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s. 101) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other Offences .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule of the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops (Transfer of Powers) Order 1921)				
Totals .. .. .	17	17	—	—

## Out-work in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108

Nature of Work	Instances	Notices served	Prosecutions
Nil .. .. .	—	—	—
Totals .. .. .	—	—	—

During the year 3 notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories referring to defects remediable under the Public Health Acts.



**(g) Houses-let-in-Lodgings.**

*Byelaws under Section 6, Housing Act, 1936.*

At the end of 1938 there were 18 registered houses-let-in-lodgings.

**(h) Common Lodging Houses.**

*Byelaws under Section 240, Public Health Act, 1936.*

There are 5 registered common lodging houses in the City, 3 in High Street, St. Thomas', the Church Army Hostel, and 2 Charles Street, St. Ebbe's.

The accommodation available is as follows:—

					<i>No. of Beds.</i>
No. 57 High Street	..	..	..	..	13
Nos. 65 and 66 High Street	..	..	..	..	13
Nos. 67 and 68 High Street	..	..	..	..	29
Church Army Hostel	..	..	..	..	62
2 Charles Street	..	..	..	..	42
					<hr/>
Total number of beds	..	..	..	..	159
					<hr/>

The whole of the above accommodation is for males and there are no beds available in the City for females.

The three lodging houses in St. Thomas' are old and not altogether suitable for the purpose, although they have been improved of late years in certain particulars. The Council have notified the owner of Nos. 67 and 68, High Street, that they will not be prepared to renew the registration of these premises after December, 1938, unless extensive reconstruction is carried out. As a result of regular inspection the other common lodging houses are kept in a fairly satisfactory condition. During the year, 116 visits were paid to these premises.

**(i) Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

*Public Health Act, 1936.*

*Byelaws under Section 268, ditto.*

During the year, 115 visits were made to these erections and as a result numerous contraventions of the byelaws were discovered and remedied.

On Saturday and Sunday, September 5th and 6th, 57 living vans, accompanied by 298 men, 105 women and 36 children, were inspected and permits granted for entry into the Fair ground in connection with

the St. Giles' Fair. The whole of the vans were satisfactory and the health of the inmates was good in every case.

(j) **Offensive Trades.**

*Public Health Act, 1936.*

*Byelaws under Section 108, Public Health Act, 1936.*

There are only 2 offensive trades carried on in the City, both being tripe boilers. In general, the work is carried on without nuisance but one of the premises is not thoroughly satisfactory for the purpose.

In addition there are 28 fried fish shops, which although not scheduled as offensive trades, have been subjected to periodical inspection. The chief cause of complaint in these shops is the use of inferior quality oil, which gives rise to offensive smells.

(k) **Canal Boats.**

*Public Health Act, 1936.*

*Canal Boats Regulations.*

During the year 46 boats were inspected. The number of persons occupying the cabins of these boats was 111, consisting of 38 adult males, 32 adult females and 41 children, 31 of the children being of school age.

It was found that 5 of the boats were contravening the Acts or Regulations as under:—

*Nature of Contravention.*

Absence of Certificate	..	..	..	..	4
Improper marking of boat	..	..	..	..	4
Painting of cabin required	..	..	..	..	2
Structural defects in cabins	..	..	..	..	3

With regard to these contraventions, 5 informal notices were served on the persons responsible, but these notices had not been complied with at the close of the year. It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings during the year.

No case of infectious disease was discovered on board of any of the boats and the standard of cleanliness of the cabins was fairly satisfactory.

33 of the boats were horse drawn and 13 were motor driven boats. In 45 cases the cargo was coal and in one case tar.

No new boats were registered during the year and the total number on the register remains at 20.

**(l) Rats and Mice.**

*Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.*

Owing to the large amount of water in and adjoining Oxford there are a large number of rats and there are many difficulties met with in dealing with rat-infested premises and lands.

During 1938, 184 visits were paid in connection with the destruction of rats and mice and rat poison and baits were distributed free of charge from the Public Health Department. During National Rat Week, which was held in November, special efforts were made to deal with the problem.

**(m) Rag Flock.**

*Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.*

No action was taken under these Acts during the year and no samples were obtained.

**(n) University Lodgings.**

The City Council entered into an agreement which took effect from 1st April, 1936, whereby the Chief Sanitary Inspector was appointed the Sanitary Officer to the University Delegacy of Lodgings.

The inspection of University Lodgings involves:—

- (a) detailed inspections in the case of applications for licences (including a complete test of the drainage system); and
- (b) an annual inspection of all licenced lodgings.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is personally responsible for the approval of all new lodgings but the annual inspections are carried out by the District Sanitary Inspector. Reports are submitted to the Controller of Lodgings, with whom very close co-operation is maintained in all aspects of the work.

During the year, 1938, a total of 1,401 visits were paid to University Lodgings.

**(o) Shops.**

*Shops Act, 1934.*

Although the Chief Constable is the Inspector under the Shops Acts, the City Council appointed the Chief Sanitary Inspector as the Inspector for all the purposes of Section 10, Shops Act, 1934, and, also for enforcing the provisions of the Shops Act, 1912, relating to seats for female shop assistants. The effect of this arrangement is that the Chief Sanitary

Inspector is responsible for enforcing the whole of the health and sanitary provisions of the Shops Acts.

During 1938, 427 visits were paid to shops and a detailed record made of 223 shops. 46 contraventions of the Shops Act were discovered; 48 informal notices were complied with; exemption certificates were issued in 9 cases; and 18 notices were outstanding at the close of the year.

The following table shows the details of the contraventions discovered.



CONTRAVENTIONS AT SHOPS	INFORMAL NOTICES					STATUTORY NOTICES				Exemption Certificates Issued 1938
	Out- standing 31/12/37	Served 1938	Complied with 1938	Out- standing 31/12/38	Followed up by Statutory Notice	Out- standing 31/12/37	Served 1938	Complied with 1938	Out- standing 31/12/38	
Separate sanitary accommoda- tion for each sex not provided	3	5	7	—	1	4	1	4	1	3
Washing facilities not available for each sex .. ..	1	3	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
Complete absence of sanitary accommodation .. ..	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	2
Complete absence of washing facilities .. ..	2	5	4	1	2	—	2	1	1	3
Inadequate Ventilation ..	5	7	9	2	1	2	1	3	—	—
*Seats for female assistants not provided .. ..	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No means of maintaining a reasonable temperature ..	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Absence of adequate lighting..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous sanitary defects	8	21	20	7	2	—	2	1	1	—
	23	46	48	14	7	6	7	9	4	9

\* In addition, in 1 shop Form "K" regarding seats for female assistants was not displayed.

**(p) Verminous Premises and Articles.**

During the year 1938, 206 houses were found to be infested with vermin and were disinfested. The details being as follows:—

				<i>No. of Houses.</i>	<i>No. of Rooms</i>
<i>(a) Bed Bugs</i>					
i. Council Houses	..	..	..	54	137
ii. Other Houses	..	..	..	141	298
Total				195	435
				<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>(b) Fleas</i>					
i. Council Houses	..	..	..	4	10
ii. Other Houses	..	..	..	7	17
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				11	27
				<hr/>	<hr/>

Infested houses are disinfested by means of liquid insecticides and sulphur dioxide fumigation, the whole of the work being carried out by the staff of the City Council.

Before removal of tenants from insanitary houses to Council houses their furniture and other belongings are fumigated with hydrogen cyanide with the exception of bedding which is subjected to steam disinfection. The hydrogen cyanide fumigation is carried out at the time of removal and the work is done by a contractor, the whole cost, both removal and fumigation, being borne by the City Council.

With the object of preventing new houses from becoming infested with vermin regular visits are paid to the tenants by members of the staff of the City Estates Surveyor.

## SECTION IV

## HOUSING.

## Report by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

## (A) STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—					Total
(i)	By the Local Authority	..	..	..	222
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	..	..	..	—
(iii)	By other bodies and persons	..	..	..	526

## 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health of Housing Acts)	..	..	..	..	..	777
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	..					8,517
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	..	..	..	..	..	764
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	..					8,432
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..	..	..	..		96
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation						776

## 2. Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notices:—

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	..	..	..	..	..	255
--	---	----	----	----	----	----	-----

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

#### A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	48
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners .. .. .	49
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	6

#### B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners .. .. .	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	—

#### C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	90
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	18

#### D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. ..	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..	—

### 4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. .	165
(2) Number of families dwelling therein .. ..	174
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein .. ..	1,299
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. .. .	19



(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. .	108
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	794
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions .. .. .	—

## **(B) HOUSING ADMINISTRATION.**

### **(1) Individually Unfit Houses.**

Extensive use is made of the Housing Act for securing the repair of working class houses, and during the year 1938 a considerable amount of work was carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Staff, details of which appear in the following table.

# **DETAILS OF HOUSING REPAIRS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

Nature of repairs	Number completed after	
	Preliminary Notice	Statutory Notice
<b>HOUSING.</b>		
Roofs repaired or renewed .. .. .	362	110
Chimney Stacks repaired or renewed .. ..	257	77
Gutters repaired or renewed .. .. .	259	79
Rainwater Pipes repaired or renewed .. ..	135	39
External Walls repaired or repointed .. ..	426	93
Window and Door Sills repaired or renewed ..	161	39
Dampness abated:—		
i. repairs to roof .. .. .	90	21
ii. repairs to gutters or rain water pipes ..	37	11
iii. repairs to external walls .. .. .	53	13
iv. waterproofing of internal walls .. ..	207	51
v. D.P.C. provided .. .. .	29	7
vi. D.P. plinth provided .. .. .	91	24
Sub-Floor Ventilation provided .. .. .	89	19
Sub-Floor Ventilators repaired or renewed ..	91	13
Through Ventilation provided .. .. .	9	—
Permanent Ventilation provided .. .. .	61	10
Yard or Passage Surface paved or repaired ..	167	48
Wall Plaster repaired .. .. .	508	134
Ceiling Plaster repaired .. .. .	246	82
Walls cleansed or redecorated .. .. .	897	241
Ceilings cleansed or redecorated .. .. .	772	217
Windows repaired or renewed .. .. .	665	199
Sashcords provided .. .. .	634	128
Doors repaired or renewed .. .. .	451	101
Floors repaired or renewed .. .. .	484	117
Stairs repaired or renewed .. .. .	103	26
Firegrates or Ranges repaired or renewed ..	300	78
New Sinks provided .. .. .	113	29
New Sink W.P.s provided .. .. .	158	42
Separate Water Supply provided .. .. .	1	3
Washing Coppers repaired or renewed .. ..	72	19
Washhouses rebuilt or repaired .. .. .	5	2
Washing Accommodation provided .. .. .	9	1
Ventilated Food Stores provided .. .. .	15	6
Food Stores repaired or improved .. .. .	23	2
Refuse Receptacles provided .. .. .	43	6
Verminous Rooms disinfested .. .. .	61	—
Miscellaneous Housing items .. .. .	227	75
<b>TOTALS .. .. .</b>	<b>8311</b>	<b>2162</b>

During the year under review, 48 statutory notices were served under Section 9, Housing Act, 1939, but in no case did the owners appeal to the County Court against the terms of a notice. 49 notices were complied with by the owners and in 6 cases it was necessary for the Corporation to carry out or complete the work themselves owing to the failure of the owners to do so. The total cost of the work done in default amounted to £242 17s. 6d. Every effort is made to encourage owners of property to carry out repairs themselves, and only as a last resort do the Corporation step in and do the work.

### (2) Clearance Areas.

During the year 1938 the following areas were declared by the Council to be Clearance Areas under Part II of the Housing Act, 1936.

<i>Area</i>						<i>No. of premises</i>	<i>No. of persons</i>
St. Clement's No. 14	..	..	..	..	..	3	7
„ „ 15	..	..	..	..	..	2	6
„ „ 16	..	..	..	..	..	2	10
St. Aldate's „ 9	..	..	..	..	..	7	17
Jericho „ 5	..	..	..	..	..	17	65
„ „ 6	..	..	..	..	..	5	12
„ „ 7	..	..	..	..	..	8	26
„ „ 8	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
„ „ 9	..	..	..	..	..	11	31
„ „ 10	..	..	..	..	..	2	6
St. Thomas' „ 3	..	..	..	..	..	5	25
St. Giles' „ 3	..	..	..	..	..	5	13
St. Ebbe's „ 8	..	..	..	..	..	8	27
Marston „ 2	..	..	..	..	..	4	15
						—	—
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	81	263
68 Areas dealt with 1931—37	..	..	..	..	..	624	2258
						—	—
Totals for 82 Areas dealt with under the							
Housing Acts up to 31.12.38						705	2521
						=====	=====

### (3) Re-development Area.

On August 8th 1938, the Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted a detailed report upon 642 premises situated in St. Ebbe's and the Council passed the necessary resolution declaring the area to be a proposed re-

development area. The area contains 579 premises with dwellinghouse accommodation, 256, or 44.2%, being either overcrowded, or unfit for human habitation and not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered so fit; or so arranged as to be congested. The area contains approximately 24.1 acres, giving a density of 24 houses to the acre, as against 2.62 houses per acre in the City as a whole. At the close of the year the preparation of the re-development plan was in progress.



## SECTION V

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## Report by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

## (A.) MILK SUPPLY.

*Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915.*

*Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.*

*Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.*

*Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.*

## (1) Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.

The following is a summary of the particulars as recorded in the registers at the 31st December, 1938.

No. of persons registered as cowkeepers	..	..	..	19
No. of premises used as cowsheds	..	..	..	35
No. of cowkeepers who are also retailers of milk	..	..	..	12
No. of persons registered as dairymen, with dairies	..	..	..	79
No. of shops selling sealed bottled milk only	..	..	..	12
No. of persons registered as retail purveyors of milk, including dairymen	..	..	..	131

During 1938, the following visits were paid to dairy premises:—

Cowsheds	..	..	..	..	..	77
Dairies and Milkshops	..	..	..	..	..	181
Total	..	..	..	..	..	258

## (2) Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

## (a) Tubercle bacilli.

During the year, 258 samples of milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and 12 or 4.64 per cent gave a positive result.

Details of the Twelve positive results were forwarded to the appropriate County Councils, and the affected cows slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

(b) **Cleanliness.**

During 1938, routine sampling of non-graded milk was continued and 179 samples were submitted to bacteriological examination by the methylene blue reduction test and also for the presence of coliform organisms.

The results of the examinations may be summarised as follows:—

i. *Methylene Blue Test.*

The standard adopted is that for “Accredited” milk, viz., a sample taken at any date from the 1st May to the 31st October is regarded as satisfying the methylene blue reduction test for the presence of bacteria if it fails to decolourise the methylene blue in  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours. A sample taken at any date from the 1st November to the 30th April is regarded as satisfying the test if it fails to decolourise the methylene blue in  $5\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

124, or 69.3 per cent of the samples were up to standard and 55 or 30.7 per cent below it.

ii. *Coliform Organisms:—*

The standard adopted is that for “Accredited” Milk, viz., absence of coliform organisms in one-hundredth of a millilitre.

The condition of the samples as regards coliform organisms was as follows:—

Coliform organisms						No.
Not found in 1 ml. or less ..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Present in 1 ml. but not in less ..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Present in 0.1 ml. but not in less..	..	..	..	..	..	25
						— 82
Present in 0.01 ml. but not in less ..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Present in 0.001 ml. ..	..	..	..	..	..	59
						— 97
						=====
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	179
						=====

It will be seen that 82 or 45.8 per cent were up to standard, 97 or 54.2 per cent below it.

iii. *Summary and remarks.*

In all, 179 separate portions of non-graded milk were examined. 71, or 39.7 per cent were up to “Accredited” standard and 108, or 60.3

per cent below such standard. In 1937, 39.3 per cent of the samples examined were up to "Accredited" standard and 60.7 per cent below that standard.

Of the 108 unsatisfactory samples, 12 were below standard as regards methylene blue only; 53 as regards coliform organisms only; and 43 in both respects.

This is extremely valuable work. Besides indicating the unsatisfactory sources of milk, it is a valuable piece of educational work from the point of view of the farmer and dairyman. In every case, the results of the examinations are sent to the persons concerned, together with comments as to possible causes of unsatisfactory results. In this way the co-operation of the trade is secured and generally speaking the work is much appreciated by the dairymen in the City.

### (3) Graded Milk.

*Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.*

The following licences were in force during the year 1938:—

Licence to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk	..	..	2
Licence to bottle and retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk	..		9
Licence to pasteurise milk	..	..	6
Supplementary licence to retail "Tuberculin Tested (Certified)" milk	..	..	1
Licence to produce "Accredited" milk	..	..	3
Licence to bottle and retail "Accredited" milk	..	..	1

During the year 1938 samples of Graded milk were obtained as follows:—

"Tuberculin Tested (Certified)"	..	..	3
"Tuberculin Tested"	..	..	39
"Accredited"	..	..	8
"Pasteurised"	..	..	32

28 or 66.6 per cent of the samples of "Tuberculin Tested (Certified)" and "Tuberculin Tested" Milk were up to the prescribed standard and 14 or 33.4 per cent below standard. Of the 14 samples below standard, 1 was unsatisfactory as regards methylene blue only; 8 as regards coliform organisms only; and 5 in both respects.

5 or 62.5 per cent of the samples of "Accredited" milk were up to the prescribed standard and 3 or 37.5 per cent below standard. Of the 3 samples below standard 1 was unsatisfactory as regards coliform organisms only and 2 as regards both methylene blue and coliform organisms.



19 or 59.4 per cent of the samples of " Pasteurised " milk were up to the prescribed standard and 13 or 40.6 per cent below standard. Of the 13 samples below standard 3 were unsatisfactory as regards total bacterial count only; 2 unsatisfactory when subjected to the " Phosphatase " test only; and 8 were unsatisfactory in both respects.

### (B.) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

*Public Health Acts, 1875 and 1890.*

*Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.*

The work of meat and food inspection, which was transferred to the sanitary staff in 1931, was continued during 1938, routine inspection being carried out and uniformity of judgment practised in accordance with Memorandum 62/Foods of the Ministry of Health.

#### (1) Meat Inspection.

The following figures show the extent of the work of Meat Inspection for the years 1930—1938.

Year	Total number of animals inspected.	Total number of visits in connection with meat inspection.
1930	7,000	1,000
1931	10,727	2,420
1932	25,449	4,227
1933	28,109	6,139
1934	27,012	5,996
1935	26,208	5,946
1936	28,002	5,525
1937	29,846	5,067
1938	28,201	5,157

The figures for the year 1930 are approximate, as accurate statistics are not available for a portion of the twelve months.

The figures show clearly that in a City such as Oxford, the work of meat inspection can be done more thoroughly by the district sanitary inspectors than is possible with a whole-time veterinary inspector. The essence of good inspection is that it should be regular and carried out as a matter of routine. Under present arrangements it is possible to inspect practically the whole of the meat supply of the City prior to its being offered for sale to the public.



The following summary shows the work done under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations during the year 1938:—

No. of visits to slaughterhouses, etc.      ..      ..      ..      ..      5,157

No. of carcasses examined:—

Bulls	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Bullocks	..	..	..	..	..	..	557
Cows	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Heifers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,575
Calves	..	..	..	..	..	..	994
							—
							3,169
Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,391
Swine	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,641
							—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,201

As a result of these inspections, various diseased or unsound conditions were discovered as detailed in the following tables. The amount of tuberculosis met with is shown in Table 1 and other diseased conditions in Table 2. Table 3 shows the number of carcasses inspected and the percentage incidence of disease. Table 4 shows the amount of meat dealt with on account of decomposition.

**TABLE 1. TUBERCULOSIS IN FOOD ANIMALS.**

Portion dealt with	Bovines		Pigs		TOTALS Bovines & Pigs	
	No.	Weight	No.	Weight	No.	Weight
Entire carcasses and all organs	8	4,723	37	4,180	45	8,903
Hindquarters .. ..	2	317	1	74	3	391
Forequarters .. ..	6	758	—	—	6	758
Portions of Meat .. ..	1	9	31	175	32	184
Heads .. ..	113	3,385	765	9,401	878	12,786
Lungs .. ..	163	1,616	27	73	190	1,689
Livers .. ..	44	557	35	110	79	667
Stomachs .. ..	—	—	—	—	815	—
Mesenteries .. ..	91	713	724	863	815	1,576
Intestines .. ..	1	20	—	—	1	20
Plucks .. ..	1	6	56	392	57	398
Totals .. ..	430	12,104	1,676	15,268	2,921	27,372

TABLE 2. DISEASES OTHER THAN

Kind of Animal	Diseases, etc.	Whole carcass and all organs		Fore-quarters		Hind-quarters		Meat	
		No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.
BOVINES	Abscesses .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Actino Bacillosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Actinomycosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Bacterial Necrosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Bruising .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	228
	Cirrhosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Distomatosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Echinococcus Cysts .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Echinococcus Veterinorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Emaciation .. ..	1	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Fracture .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
	Immature .. ..	1	25	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Melanosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pleurisy .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pneumonia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pyæmia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Septic Metritis.. ..	1	700	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Septic Peritonitis .. ..	1	203	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Tumour.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Umbilical Pyæmia .. ..	1	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
SHEEP	Abscesses .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Cirrhosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Distomatosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Degenerated Echinococcal Cysts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Echinococcus Veterinorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Fatty Infiltration .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Moribund .. ..	1	73	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Necrosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pericarditis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pncumonia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Strongylus Rufescens .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SWINE	Abscesses .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	Cirrhosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Congestion .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Decomposition .. ..	—	—	1	59	—	—	—	—
	Distomatosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Emaciation .. ..	1	83	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Endocarditis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Fatty Degeneration .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Fevered .. ..	1	216	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Hepatitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Inflammation .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Jaundice .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Necrosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pericarditis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Peritonitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pleurisy .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pneumonia .. ..	1	170	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Swine Erysipelas .. ..	2	234	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Tumour.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals .. ..	11	1,984	1	59	—	—	—	241

Lungs		Livers		Tongues		Kidneys		Plucks		Abdom- inal Viscera		Offal		Total car- casses and all Organs	
No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.
7	56	50	659	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	59	742
—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	32
—	—	—	—	8	49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	131
—	—	2	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	23
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	228
—	—	11	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	163
3	29	91	1,088	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	94	1,117
2	20	2	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	45
1	12	1	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	28
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	240
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	25
1	8	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	36
5	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	48
2	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	20
—	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	700
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	203
—	—	4	61	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	61
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	40
—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
—	—	32	91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	91
—	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	73
1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	2	7
—	—	9	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	29
—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	19
—	—	39	161	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	161
3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9
—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	59
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	83
—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	216
—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	20	—	—	—	—	4	22
—	—	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	10
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	—	—	—	—	2	7
—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	1	—	1	24
8	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	—	—	—	—	10	28
10	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	—	—	—	—	13	216
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	234
—	—	7	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	41
14	258	266	2,402	11	65	—	—	12	65	—	25	—	11	352	5,272

**TABLE 3. CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.**

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. ..	2,132	43	994	14,319	10,641
Number inspected .. ..	2,132	43	994	14,319	10,641
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</i> Whole carcasses condemned	3	—	2	1	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	178	3	2	55	110
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	8.5%	6.9%	0.4%	0.5%	1.1%
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i> Whole carcasses condemned ..	7	1	—	—	37
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	265	13	3	—	1,115
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis .. .. .	12.8%	32.5%	0.3%	—	10.8%



TABLE 4. DECOMPOSITION OF MEAT.

Quantity dealt with						Weight lbs.
ENGLISH:						
Beef	..	..	..	..	..	362
Pork ..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Plucks	..	..	..	..	..	—
Livers ..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Lamb ..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Chitterlings	..	..	..	..	..	50
IMPORTED:						
Beef ..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Lambs livers..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Bacon ..	..	..	..	..	..	92
Plucks..	..	..	..	..	..	18
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	683

From the Tables it will be seen that the quantity of meat dealt with during the year on account of disease or decomposition, was as follows:—

	lbs.	lbs.
1. Tuberculosis .. .. .	27,372	
2. Other diseases .. .. .	5,272	
3. Decomposition .. .. .	683	
	—————	33,327
This consists of:—		
English Meat .. .. .	33,176	
Imported Meat .. .. .	151	
	—————	33,327

No difficulties arose during the year in connection with the inspection of meat, other than those associated with the slaughter of animals outside the City and the subsequent removal of the carcasses to premises in Oxford. As a result of co-operation with meat traders notification is now made to the inspectors upon the arrival of such carcasses and during the year a large number were inspected as they came into the City.

It was not necessary to seize formally any meat during the year and no legal proceedings were taken.

(2) **Other Foods.**

The following is a summary of the various food shops and premises within the City, together with visits paid to each during 1938:—

Premises	No.	Visits paid
Butchers .. .. .	80	472
Fishmongers and poulterers .. .. .	25	50
Fruiterers and greengrocers .. .. .	81	9
Grocers .. .. .	79	11
Market stalls, carts, etc. .. .. .	60	1,381
Bakehouses .. .. .	39	27
Dairies and Milkshops .. .. .	73	181
Cowsheds .. .. .	37	77
Ice-Cream premises .. .. .	33	113
Restaurants .. .. .	34	8
Cold Store .. .. .	1	—
Other food preparing premises .. .. .	20	—
Miscellaneous visits .. .. .	—	126
Visits <i>re</i> sampling .. .. .	—	410
Totals .. .. .	562	2,865

As a result of these inspections the following food stuffs were found to be unsound and were destroyed:—

	lbs.
Fish .. .. .	212
Tinned Meat .. .. .	210
Poultry .. .. .	98
Saveloys .. .. .	7
	<hr/>
	527
	<hr/>

(3) **Markets.**

There are two markets in Oxford, a large covered permanent market and a weekly open market at the Oxpens held every Wednesday.

The number of food stalls is as follows:—

					<i>Covered Market</i>	<i>Oxpens Market</i>
Butchers	..	..	..	..	16	5
Bacon dealers		..	..	..	2	2
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	2	4
Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	21	11
Poulterers	..	..	..	..	5	1
					—	—
					46	23
					==	==

The covered market is fairly satisfactory, all the food stalls being under cover.

The arrangements for the food stalls at the Oxpens, and especially those selling meat, are far from satisfactory. They are in an exposed position and liable to contamination as a result of the blowing of dust etc., from the cattle pens.

#### (4) **Shops, Stalls and Vehicles.**

Increasing attention is now being paid to all food shops throughout the City and numerous improvements have been effected during the year.

The majority of meat traders now keep the windows of their shops closed as a precaution against the blowing of dust and dirt on to their meat and in only a few cases has it been necessary to draw their attention to the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations in this connection. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that it is impossible to prevent the contamination of meat unless it is kept behind glass. That such a practice has no adverse effect upon the meat is evidenced by the large number of shopkeepers who regularly adopt this practice without any trouble.

#### (5) **Slaughterhouses.**

There are 14 slaughterhouses in the City, 2 being subject to an annual licence and the remaining 12 being registered.

The slaughterhouses are in fair condition generally. They are kept in a satisfactory state as regards general cleanliness and the removal of waste matter and offals, but structurally a number of them are bad, whilst in most cases the proximity of other buildings render the sites unsuitable for their present purpose. During the year, a number of minor improvements and repairs have been carried out.

(C.) ADULTERATION, ETC.

*Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.*  
*Artificial Cream Act, 1929.*  
*Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.*  
*Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.*  
*Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925-27.*

(1) Food Sampling and Analysis.

Table 5 shows the number and nature of the samples of food and drugs obtained during the year under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and submitted to the Public Analyst. The Table also shows the result of the analyses.

In addition to the samples examined by the Public Analyst, 262 informal samples of milk were examined in the Public Health Department by the Gerber Process, and 20 or 7.63 per cent were found to be below standard.

The value of the Gerber test for the examination of milk is considerable and its use is gradually being extended. Informal samples may be obtained at short notice and a general idea of the condition of the milk obtained. In this way samples of milk well above the standard need not be sent to the Public Analyst, who is thus able to concentrate upon other foodstuffs.

The Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901, lay down that unless milk contains a minimum of 3 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent solids-not-fat, it shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been adulterated. The average percentage composition of the milk examined in 1938 is as follows:—

	<i>Milk fat per cent</i>	<i>Solids not-fat per cent</i>	<i>Total solids per cent</i>
44 samples analysed by the Public Analyst .. .. .	3.12	8.46	11.58
262 samples examined by the Gerber process .. .. .	3.58	8.82	12.40
306 total samples .. .. .	3.51	8.76	12.27



TABLE 5.

ARTICLE.	NO. OF SAMPLES.			NO. GENUINE.			NO. ADULTERATED.		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
All Spice ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Almond Essence ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Aspirin Tablets ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Baking Powder ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Black Puddings ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Boracic Crystals ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bravn ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Brisling ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Butter ..	—	7	7	—	7	7	—	—	—
Butter Beans ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Camphorated Oil ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Candied Peel ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese ..	—	5	5	—	5	5	—	—	—
Chicory with Coffee ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cocoa ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Coconut Flour ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cooking Fat ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Corned Beef ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Corn flour ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cream ..	—	7	7	—	7	7	—	—	—
Currants ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Custard Powder..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dates ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Desiccated Coconut ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dressed Crab ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dressing Crumbs ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dried Fruit ..	—	8	8	—	8	8	—	—	—
Dried Mint ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Dried Peas ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Dripping ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Epsom Salts ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Figs ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fillet of Herring ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste ..	—	9	9	—	9	9	—	—	—
Force meat Stuffing ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gelatine ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Glace Cherries ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Glauber Salts ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gravy Salt ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Grill Sauce ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Ground Almonds ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Ginger ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Nutmeg ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Rice ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Ham ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Honey ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Horse Radish ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Jam ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lard ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lemonade Crystals ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lentils ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Margarine ..	—	5	5	—	5	5	—	—	—
Marmalade ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Marrow Chutney ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat Paste ..	—	5	5	—	5	5	—	—	—
Milk ..	44	—	44	31	—	31	13	—	13
Olive Oil ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ox Tongue Savoury ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pearl Barley ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Pork Pies ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Potato Crisps ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Raisins ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rice ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Rissoles ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sage and Onion Stuffing ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sago ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Salad Dressing ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Sal Volatile ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sardines ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausages ..	1	12	13	—	10	10	1	2	3
Saveloys ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Semolina ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Soup Powder ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Suet ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sugar ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sultanas ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Sweets ..	—	15	15	—	15	15	—	—	—
Table Jellies ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Tapioca ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Tea ..	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	—	—
Tea Cakes ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Tincture of Iodine ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tinned Pineapple ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tinned Peas ..	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Tinned Tomatoes ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato Sauce ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Vinegar ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Yeast ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Yeast Tablets ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Zinc Ointment ..	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Totals ..	45	198	243	31	196	227	14	2	16



(2) **Artificial Cream Act, 1929.**

No action taken during year.

(3) **Condensed and Dried Milk.**

No action was taken with regard to the Condensed Milk and Dried Milk Regulations during the year.

(4) **Preservatives in Food.**

The Public Analyst examined the various foodstuffs for the presence of preservatives. One formal sample of sausages was found to contain 47.3 parts per million of sulphur dioxide and 2 informal samples were found to contain 250 parts per million and 65 parts per million respectively without the necessary declaration being given; the vendors were cautioned.

(5) **Cases of adulteration and action taken.**

The following table (see page 65) shows the nature of adulteration found and the action taken.

No. of sample		Article	Nature of Adulteration	Action taken
Informal	Formal			
77		Sausages	Sulphur dioxide 250 parts per million. No declaration was made of presence of preservatives	Warning letter sent
106		„	Sulphur dioxide 65 parts per million. No declaration was made of presence of preservatives	Warning letter sent
	149	Milk	Contained 47.3 parts per million of sulphur dioxide	Warning letter sent
	57	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 13.33%	Warning letter sent
	59	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 30%	Warning letter sent
	63	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 20%	Warning letter sent
	64	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 5%	Warning letter sent
	66	„	Contains 13.53% of added water and has deficiency in fat to extent of 25%	Warning letter sent
	67	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 10%	Warning letter sent
	68	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 5%	Warning letter sent
	72	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 5%	Warning letter sent
	75	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 10%	Warning letter sent
	76	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 5.33%	Warning letter sent
	90	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 11%	“Appeal to Cow ” sample—No action necessary
	95	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 7%	Warning letter sent
	97	„	Deficient in fat to the extent of 3%	Warning letter sent



**(D.) MISCELLANEOUS.****(1) Merchandise Marks and Orders.**

During the year 1938, 315 visits were made in connection with the administration of the above Acts and Orders, and various warnings were issued in connection with contraventions against the Marking Orders.

**(2) Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act.**

No action was necessary under this Act during the year.

**(3) Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.**

No action was taken with regard to the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, during the year.

## SECTION VI

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### SMALLPOX.

There were no cases of smallpox in Oxford during 1938, and the Isolation Hospital at Garsington remained closed throughout the whole year.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

175 cases of scarlet fever were notified, this being the lowest number for five years. There were no apparent epidemics, and the cases were more or less evenly distributed throughout the year in the various wards of the City.

One death was attributed to surgical scarlet fever, a woman of 22 who died in the Hall and Home; she had recently undergone an operation.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

17 cases of diphtheria were notified during the year; 11 of these being connected with an outbreak which occurred at the Wingfield Morris Hospital during March to May. 6 of these were patients in the hospital, and the remaining five were presumably infected through a patient who had been discharged home, although his nose and throat swabs had proved negative and he had been given three 1 c.c. injections of T.A.F. immunisation. Extensive swabbing, immunisation and Schick Testing was carried out among the medical and nursing staff and the patients in the wards where cases had occurred. Three of the cases had to be isolated in the Wingfield as their orthopaedic condition did not permit of them being removed to the City Isolation Hospital.

The sister of the patient who had been discharged home developed a severe attack of faucial and nasal diphtheria within one week of her brother's discharge. Subsequently, his two brothers, and two children who were friends of the family, developed diphtheria. Eventually all the cases connected with the outbreak made satisfactory recoveries.

One child, aged 18 months, died in the Radcliffe Infirmary from mediastinitis, tracheotomy and laryngeal diphtheria. Although his death occurred at the same time as the Wingfield outbreak, there was no apparent connection.

### **Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

Very little immunisation was carried out during 1938, with the exception of that connected with the Wingfield epidemic. Facilities were available throughout the year for immunisation at the Public Health Department.

42 Schick tests were made, and 45 injections given.

### **TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID FEVER.**

There were three cases of typhoid fever during the year, one in Cowley Road Hospital, and two among the members of a theological college.

### **PNEUMONIA.**

68 cases were notified, and the death returns show 49 deaths attributable to the disease.

### **CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.**

There were 14 cases of cerebro-spinal fever notified, 11 being treated in the Radcliffe Infirmary, one in the Acland Home and one in the London Road Hospital. One of the Radcliffe cases was normally domiciled outside the City, but was counted as an Oxford case.

The two cases in the Acland Home and the London Road Hospital, and two of the Radcliffe Infirmary cases died.

### **ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.**

One case was notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary.

### **BACILLARY DYSENTERY (Sonne).**

11 cases of this disease were notified, all of them being very mild. 9 were associated with a residential girls school.



### **ACUTE BACTERIOLOGICAL FOOD POISONING.**

In October a man and his wife were notified as suffering from acute bacteriological food poisoning. They were admitted to the Radcliffe Infirmary where they eventually recovered after serious attacks. The poisoning was due to pies which they had eaten, and complete investigation was carried out in co-operation with the Ministry of Health Food Section and the Medical Officer of Health of the Authority where the pies had been manufactured. As a result, a better system of retailing the pies was adopted.

### **ERYSIPELAS.**

37 cases were notified; there were two deaths, both in the London Road Hospital.

### **ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS.**

A serious outbreak of acute polio-myelitis occurred in Oxford during the months of August to December, 1938. The total number of cases notified was 34, but of these, five were infected outside Oxford. They occurred at the start of the epidemic.

The first case was notified on August 4th, and the last on December 2nd. The epidemic may be regarded as a two-phase one, in that the first three cases occurred in August, following these there was a gap of 20 days in which no cases occurred; during the next 73 days the remaining cases were brought to light. The height of the epidemic was between October 2nd and 12th, when 13 cases were diagnosed, and it is interesting to note that this period coincides with the period of maximum incidence in England and Wales (as shown in the tables and article in the *British Medical Journal*, Nov. 19th, 1938). Reference to this, shows that the peak of notifications in August was coincident with the three cases in Oxford, suggesting that these early cases were connected with the second phase of the epidemic, which might have been due to an increase in the carrier population of Oxford, particularly as these three cases were notified from the same district in East Oxford. There was no obvious connection between them.

The weather continued mild and warm until just before Christmas, and there was no great variation in temperature during the whole period. The disease was widespread throughout the country, especially in Essex, although it is remarkable that the epidemic in Oxford was confined almost to one district, and one infant school particularly appeared to be involved.

16 of the cases were grouped in this district; of the remainder, 4 were



notified from one of the local hospitals (2 nurses and 2 patients); two cases each occurred in two families quite near to the district heavily affected; another was a girl in a residential school; two more were undergraduates in the University; and the remaining two were children in other districts—who appeared to have no connection with the cases as far as could be ascertained.

The early diagnosis, clinically, was of the utmost importance. Reliance was placed mainly on a careful history from the parents and older relatives, who had been in a position to note symptoms and signs as they arose. Clinically, the physical signs were those which are generally found, and the most important were: 1. Stiffness of neck, as shown by the Knee-Kissing test. 2. Positive Kernig's, or other signs of meningeal irritation. 3. Pyrexia, usually mild, and rarely over 100 deg. F. 4. Nasopharyngeal catarrh. The most constant symptom was headache, usually frontal, occasionally occipital.

In many cases the patients were not seen by general practitioners until paresis had developed, although symptoms had been present for several days. The cases that presented the most difficulty were the cerebral or bulbar variety (three of the four deaths were accounted for by the bulbar infection), and the very mild or abortive type, with little or nothing in the way of premonitory signs and symptoms.

Two cases were of the definite dromedary type which showed a latent period of 3 to 4 days between two periods of signs and symptoms, and these cases needed careful watching and observation before arriving at a final diagnosis.

During this period of warm and settled weather there also occurred amongst children of school age and in toddlers, numerous cases of diarrhoea and sickness, probably a Sonne infection in many cases, and this led to difficulty in diagnosis at times. Repeated visits were necessary before a diagnosis of acute polio-myelitis could be eliminated.

Fortunately there are two voluntary hospitals in Oxford which have the facilities for treating A.P.M. cases. One of them being an orthopaedic hospital which has, within the last two years, built a special block for treating these cases in their infectious stage. Even so, as other local authorities were also using these hospitals for similar cases, it was found necessary to open a block at the City Hospital for acute cases and also for non-infective cases transferred from the Orthopaedic hospital. It was not found possible to admit all the doubtful cases for observation, etc., as hospital accommodation was being taxed to its limits.

Whilst the epidemic continued, all children away from school through

illness, were visited by the Public Health medical staff. Nursery classes in the East Oxford area and Infant Welfare Centres throughout the City were closed, although it was still possible for mothers to obtain food and consult the doctor at the times the centres would normally have been held. Notices were published in the local press informing the public of the precautionary measures taken by the Department, and those they could take themselves to prevent the spread of the epidemic.

With the advent of cold weather in December the epidemic subsided. Four of the cases died, one of which had been definitely infected away from Oxford; and at the time of writing this report several cases are still under treatment.

The following table gives a history of the cases.



No. of Case	Age.	Date of Onset	Mode of Onset.	Date first seen by doctor	Onset and extent of paresis.	Remarks*
1.	5 yrs.	5.8.39	Cerebral type, bulbar	13.8.39	—	Died 14.8.38, polio-encephalitis.
2.	9 yrs.	24.8.38			Nil	Only in hospital 2 days, complete recovery.
3.	4 yrs.	30.8.38	Aching and pains in legs, drowsy, limping	30.8.38	Rt. drop foot	Discharged from Orthopaedic Hospital 30.9.38, attended as out-patient for a time. Complete recovery. (Was away from Oxford August 14—21st.)
4.	12 yrs.	21.9.38	Headache, vomiting, feverish, lassitude	29.9.38	Paralysis of L. V. VI. VII. & R. XII. Cranial nerves. Paresis both IX, X & XI	Treated in local General Hospital, then Orthopaedic Hospital. Received out-patient treatment subsequently. Still attending as out-patient. Partial recovery.
5.	6 yrs.	26.9.38	“ Cold ” and headache, weakness in legs	29.9.38	Paralysis both legs	Still in Orthopaedic Hospital. Improving.
6.	4 yrs.	2.10.38	“ Cold,” vomiting and fever, aching in limbs, severe headache and drowsiness	11.10.38	Nil	Treated in General Hospital, and then Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged 27.10.38. Recovered.
7.	2 yrs.	2.10.38	“ Cold,” feverish, drowsy, headache, pains all over	11.10.38	Paralysis L. leg	Treated in General Hospital, and then Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged 15.12.38, attended out-patient department, no real paresis. Recovered.
8.	20 yrs.	3.10.38	Rhinitis, sore-throat, fever and vomiting, pains and stiffness, blurring of vision	15.10.38	Paresis of both upper arms, and legs, and L. side of neck	Treated in Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged March. Recovered completely.
9.	2 yrs.	4.10.38	Pains in L. leg and stiffness of neck	In Hosp.	Nil	Contracted in Hospital, treated there, and later sent to City Hospital as convalescent. Discharged home 17.12.38. Complete recovery.
10.	2 yrs.	6.10.38	Fever and stiffness of neck	10.10.38	Nil	Treated in Orthopaedic Hospital, transferred to City Hospital. Discharged 28.10.38. Complete recovery.
11.	5 yrs.	6.10.38	“ Cold,” vomiting and fever, slight difficulty in walking and using accessory muscles of respiration when seen	8.10.38	Glosso-Labio Pharyngeal Paralysis	Died 9.10.38 at home: oedema of glottis, pharyngitis, acute polio-myeloencephalitis.
12.	4 yrs.	6.10.38	Irritability, fever, retention of urine, stiffness of neck	18.10.38	Paralysis both legs & abdomen. Paresis L. arm	Contracted in Hospital. Still under treatment.
13	18 yrs.	1.10.38	“ Cold in head,” headache, numbness in L. arm and stiffness of neck	9.10.38	Paralysis L. arm	Treated in Orthopaedic Hospital, discharged 7.1.39. Complete recovery.
14	16 yrs.	8.10.38.	Pain in back and leg, stiffness of neck. Fever	8.10.38	Paralysis L. leg	Treated in General Hospital then Orthopaedic Hospital. Still under treatment,
15.	8 yrs.	9.10.38.	Sore throat, headache, stiffness of neck, fever, pain in legs	11.10.38	Paralysis L. leg. Paresis R.	Dromedary type, complete absence of symptoms and signs from 11—14.10.38. Treated in City Hospital. Discharged 5.11.38, attended General Hospital as out-patient. Recovered.
16.	5 yrs.	11.10.38	Headache, backache, and stiffness of neck, pains in legs, drowsiness, vomiting fever	18.10.38	Intercostals, abdominals. Both legs, Paresis both upper arms	Removed to Orthopaedic Hospital. Still under treatment.
17.	20 yrs.	12.10.38	Headache, lassitude, stiffness of neck, sore throat and adenitis, irrational later, nystagmus	—	Paresis of neck muscles	Contracted at Hospital attending as out-patient. Recovering.
18.	10 yrs.	12.10.38	Vomiting and shivering, pains in legs and sore throat, fever	18.10.38	Paresis legs, and left ankle	Treated in City Hospital. Discharged 18.11.38. Recovered completely.
19.	20 yrs.	13.10.38	Headache, fever & dizziness	16.10.38	Paresis left ankle	Treated in Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged 12.12.38. Recovered.
20.	1 yr.	21.10.38	Off food, fever, stiffness of neck	23.10.38	Nil	Contracted in Hospital. Discharged 16.11.38. Complete recovery.
21.	17 yrs.	23.10.38	Headache, fever	—	Paresis of thigh muscles and abdominals & intercostals	Contracted at Hospital. Still under treatment. Recovering.
22.	7 yrs.	26.10.38	Abdominal pain, vomiting, fever and lassitude	30.10.38	Paresis of extensors and abductors of Left leg	Treated in City Hospital, later Orthopaedic Hospital, still there under treatment.
23.	4 yrs.	31.10.38	Fever, headache, drowsy, sick	4.11.38	Nil	Died at home 6.11.38. Post mortem held: Cardiac failure, Anterior polio-myelitis (bulbar).
24.	18 yrs.	3.11.38	Pyrexia, pains in chest muscles, stiffness neck & back, headache	4.11.38	Paresis, arms, back, diaphragm, neck	Treated in Nursing Home, then Orthopaedic Hospital. Still under treatment.
25.	29 yrs.	3.11.38	Fainting attack, aching all over and shivering, later headache and pains in back. Vomiting and fever, weak in legs, neck rigidity	—	Paresis both legs, L. facial paresis	Treated in Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged in March. Partial recovery.
26.	9 yrs.	11.11.38	Headache, pyrexia, stiff neck	12.11.38	Nil	Treated in Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged 27.11.38. Completely recovered.
27.	4 yrs.	14.11.38	Stiff neck, fever, catarrh, etc.	19.11.38	Paresis of legs	Treated in City Hospital, later in Orthopaedic Hospital. Still under treatment.
28.	19 yrs.	23.11.38	Headache and vomiting, some pyrexia, stiffness of neck	28.11.38	Nil	Went to Orthopaedic Hospital for two days, then went home under care of father, a doctor.
29.	3 yrs.	2.12.38	Vomiting, headache, feverish pains in legs	6.12.38	Paresis Rt. leg. Paralysis Lt. leg	Treated in City Hospital, then Orthopaedic Hospital. Discharged May. Attending as out-patient.

\* This list was completed 7.6.39, the remarks therefore apply to condition on this date.





Cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1938.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.												TOTAL CASES IN EACH WARD.						ISOLATION HOSPITAL. CASES REMOVED TO	
	At all Ages.	At Ages. Years.											Summertown and Wolvercote.	North.	West.	South.	East.	Headington.		Coley and Ifley.
		Under One.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65								
Scarlet Fever ..	175	—	3	7	15	90	24	15	11	3	—	—	124	15	2	11	12	33	70	124
Diphtheria ..	17	—	1	—	1	7	3	4	—	1	—	—	11	1	1	6	—	7	2	11
Pneumonia ..	68	3	3	2	1	7	5	4	14	7	18	—	—	2	5	4	7	14	28	—
Erysipelas.. ..	37	1	—	2	—	2	—	1	5	6	13	7	—	6	2	2	7	8	7	—
Typhoid Fever ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	36	4	—	—	—	1	1	3	7	4	10	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	14	1	1	—	—	3	—	2	4	—	2	1	—	2	2	—	6	—	4	—
Bacillary Dysentery ..	11	—	—	1	—	—	4	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	10	—	—
Acute Bacteriological																				
Food Poisoning ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Myelitis ..	34	—	2	1	6	9	2	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	11	14	13
Totals ..	411	9	10	12	23	118	38	43	81	23	33	12	46	48	19	30	43	88	137	148

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) since 1920.

DISEASE.	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	41	148	153	231	171	111	62	40	62	166	215	92	105	143	188	180	245	286	175
Diphtheria ..	131	72	15	28	23	24	13	10	12	35	210	90	30	17	21	31	31	11	17
Erysipelas ..	10	14	18	9	10	9	11	14	10	43	39	27	22	29	70	50	38	28	37
Puerperal Fever ..	3	4	4	—	2	4	11	6	8	3	16	8	8	6	13	14	8	5†	—
Puerperal Pyrexia..	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	27	22	30	38	45	36	51	33	44	59	28	45
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	11	1	8	18	6	5	5	10	7	17	18	29	26	20	46	28	8	9	4
*Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	5	8	2	—	3	4	14
Typhoid Fever ..	1	2	1	4	—	4	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	—	1	1	5	—	3
Typhoid Para "A"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Typhoid Para "B"	2	1	12	6	4	11	5	5	5	7	9	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	—	5	3	1	5	5	4	4	3	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	3	3	5	1	—	—	34
Polio-encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	4	2	—	1	1
Bacillary Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	13	11

\* Became notifiable on 1st October, 1926.      † Notifiable as "Puerperal Pyrexia" from 1 October, 1937.

## THE WORK OF THE ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

### (a) The City Isolation Hospital.

The following table shows the number of admissions and discharges for the year 1938:—

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Diphtheria 'Observation'	Scarlet Fever 'Observation'	Acute Polio-Myelitis	A.P.M. Observations	Scabies	Tonsillitis	Impetigo	Erysipelas	German Measles	Mumps	TOTAL
In Hospital 1.1.38 ..	10	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	19
Admitted .. ..	124	11	32	2	1	13	3	16	2	2	—	1	2	209
Discharged .. ..	125	11	21	2	—	7	3	16	2	2	1	1	2	193
Died .. ..	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
In Hospital 31.12.38 .	9	—	8	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24

The greatest number of patients in on any one day was 35, the smallest 15, and the average number 28.4.

### (b) The Smallpox Hospital.

This hospital remained closed throughout the year.

#### (a) Cases of Infectious Diseases notified from other Institutions.

- (1) *Scarlet Fever*: 7 cases were notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary, 1 from the Osler Pavilion and 2 from the Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital. 5 of the Radcliffe Infirmary cases, 1 from the Wingfield Hospital and the one from the Osler Pavilion were removed to the City Hospital for treatment.
- (2) *Diphtheria*: One case was notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary and 6 from the Wingfield-Morris Hospital. 2 of the latter being removed to the City Hospital

- (3) *Erysipelas*: 8 cases notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary and 3 from London Road Hospital.
- (4) *Puerperal Pyrexia*: Notifications of this disease were received as follows, 9 from the Radcliffe Infirmary, 26 from the Radcliffe Maternity Home and 2 from the Cowley Road Hospital.
- (5) *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*: 2 cases were notified from the Radcliffe Maternity Home.
- (6) *Typhoid Fever*: 1 case was notified from Cowley Road Hospital.
- (7) *Acute Bacteriological Food-Poisoning*: 2 cases were notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary.
- (8) *Bacillary Dysentery*: 1 case was notified from the Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital and one from the Acland Home.
- (9) *Cerebro-Spinal Fever*: 8 cases were notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary.
- (10) *Acute Polio-Encephalitis*: 1 case was notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary.
- (11) *Acute Polio-Myelitis*: 1 case was notified from the Radcliffe Infirmary, and 4 from the Wingfield-Morris Hospital.

The agreement still exists with the Radcliffe Infirmary to take in patients suffering from the following forms of infectious diseases subject to there being the necessary accommodation available:—

- (a) Cerebro-spinal fever.
- (b) Encephalitis lethargica.
- (c) Acute anterior polio-myelitis.
- (d) Typhoid and paratyphoid.
- (e) Cases of laryngeal Diphtheria in which a surgical operation may be required.



## NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### VENEREAL DISEASE.

The Clinic at the Radcliffe Infirmary has been conducted on the same lines as last year:—

City Patients on books January 1st, 1938 ..	151
New applicants for treatment .. .. .	208
Transferred from other Centres.. .. .	16
	<hr/>
	375
	<hr/>

Ceased to attend during year:—

(1) After completion of treatment and final tests of cure, or after diagnosis as non-venereal .. .. .	117
(2) Before completion of treatment .. ..	68
(3) Transferred to other Centres .. ..	20
	<hr/>
	205
	<hr/>

City Patients on books December 31st, 1938 ..	170
---	-----

Of the 208 new cases 65 were found not to be suffering from venereal diseases.

The total attendance was 4,308 against 5,702 in 1937, 4,653 in 1936, 3,339 in 1935, 3,557 in 1934, 5,914 in 1933, 4,877 in 1932, 5,256 in 1931, and 6,164 in 1930.

During the year 43 patients were admitted for treatment, or observation, the total number of “ in-patient ” days being 730. The number of pathological examinations made in respect of City patients was 740.

I am again indebted to Mr. Abernethy for the following comments on the working of the Clinic.

## **A Report on the work of the Venereal Diseases Clinic for the year 1938.**

By D. A. ABERNETHY, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), M.R.C.O.G.,  
Medical Officer in Charge of the Clinic, Radcliffe Infirmary and  
County Hospital, Oxford.

The work of the Clinic has proceeded during 1938 on the lines indicated in my last report. The new drug to which allusion was made has very largely fulfilled our high hopes of its efficacy and several important modifications of this chemical have been submitted by the manufacturers to the Medical Officers of the Clinic for therapeutic use. I am happy to be able to report that the results are most satisfactory: the later drugs are more efficient than their fore-runners and require less careful co-operation from the patient.

On the Pathological side we are being greatly helped by the increased personnel. Tests are now being carried out as a routine which previously could only be made in cases of special difficulty and in consequence we are thus enabled in some, although not in all cases, to come to a definite conclusion much earlier and so to save our patients' time and anxiety.

The record system continues to give great satisfaction and to any patient who fails to attend at the appointed time a letter is written in non-committal terms, so that if it falls into the wrong hands it can do no harm to the patient, asking the reason for the failure to attend and making a new appointment.

The number of new cases shows an increase, \*316 compared with 249 for 1937 and the total number of attendances for the year is 6223. The number of persons found not to be infected continues to be high, 81 during 1938 and a large proportion of the patients present themselves voluntarily for examination.

As in previous years the attendance rate is on the whole good but the women are more regular than the men. 56 patients were admitted to the Ward for treatment during the year: the average period of In-Patient treatment was  $16\frac{1}{2}$  days.

\* These figures relate to all cases seen, including those from Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

## **VACCINATION.**

No primary vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

During the year 287 vaccinations were carried out by the Public Vaccinators.

The following is the Vaccination Officer's Return for the year 1937:—

Number of Births during the year	.. ..	1779
----------------------------------	-------	------

Number of these births:—

(a) which were successfully vaccinated	..	563	
(b) „ „ insusceptible to vaccination		4	
(c) in respect of which the statutory declaration of conscientious objection was received	.. .. .	1004	
(d) which died unvaccinated	.. ..	61	
(e) which were postponed by medical certificate	.. .. .	3	
(f) which removed to other districts and temporarily unaccounted for	..	144	
		—	1779

Total number of certificates and copies of certificates of successful primary vaccination of children under 14 received in 1938—525.

Total number of statutory declarations of conscientious objection received in 1938—1011.

### CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION OF VERMINOUS PERSONS.

Facilities are available at Cowley Road Institution for the cleansing of verminous persons. Clothes and rooms are disinfected by the Public Health Department.

### EXAMINATION OF BACTERIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

1. Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	.. .. .	464	
2. Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	.. ..	19	
3. Diphtheria Virulence Tests	.. .. .	8	
4. Other bacteriological examinations	.. ..	2	
5. Swabs for organisms	.. .. .	23	
6. Sputum examinations for Tubercle Bacilli			
(a) Private Practitioners.		241	} 378
(b) Dispensary		137	

7.	Sputum examinations for organisms	..	..	5
8.	Urine examinations	..	..	12
9.	Faeces examinations	..	..	19
10.	Widal Tests	..	..	1
11.	Cerebro Spinal fluid examinations	..	..	4
12.	Blood cultures	..	..	1
13.	Pus examinations for organisms	..	..	2



## SECTION VII

### TUBERCULOSIS.

#### The Tuberculosis Scheme in Oxford.

The Dispensary organisation in Oxford is as follows:—

##### 1. **Buildings.**

An out-patient room is rented from the Radcliffe Infirmary for two sessions a week, i.e., Tuesdays 5.30—7 and Fridays 11—12 a.m. A third session a week is held at the Osler Pavilion for Headington patients on Mondays at 5.30 p.m. The evening sessions are to allow working men and women to attend for periodical examinations and treatment without the necessity of having to lose time.

##### 2. **Staff.**

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health acts as Clinical Tuberculosis Officer and is assisted, when necessary, by the Medical Officer of Health and the Assistant Medical Officers of Health.

The Health Visitors are also Tuberculosis Visitors and attend the Dispensaries in rotation.

There is a Consultant Tuberculosis Officer (part time) who undertakes specialised treatment in the Out-Patient Department at the Osler Pavilion.

##### 3. **Records.**

The clinical records of each patient are kept at the appropriate Dispensary but all the clerical returns, letters, etc., are dealt with in the Public Health Department.

##### 4. **Treatment.**

No active treatment requiring special knowledge and medical skill is undertaken at the Dispensary sessions but they act as a “clearing house” for observation, the examination of contacts, after care and information bureau.

The specialised treatment such as Pneumothorax refills and diagnostic examination with the help of X-rays is carried out in the Out-Patient Department of the Osler Pavilion. The Consultant Tuberculosis Officer who is also Honorary Physician to the Osler Pavilion is responsible for the treatment and is assisted by Mrs. C. Corry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., the

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and the Resident Medical Officer of the Osler Pavilion.

It will be seen by the foregoing that a large and important part of the "Dispensary" organisation is undertaken by the medical staff of the Osler Pavilion.

## 5. **Statistics.**

A comparison of the Dispensary Return on page 87 with the 1937 figures shows as follows.

The new cases of definite tuberculosis show very little change there being a decrease of 2 from 72 to 70. There was a considerable decrease in the number of undiagnosed cases from 151 to 71, and there was a considerable increase in the cases found to be non-tuberculous which is a most satisfactory feature.

At the end of the year 442 patients were on the Dispensary Register against 475 in 1937, due to the fact that a large number of undiagnosed cases were found to be non-tuberculous.

The consultations with General Practitioners were nearly doubled, which shows that the facilities offered by the service are appreciated. There was a slight decrease in the number of visits paid by the Health Visitors.

Increasing use was made of X-ray examinations, 407 X-ray films were taken exclusive of the patients who were screened for refills for Artificial Pneumothorax.

## 6. **Co-operation.**

It is satisfactory to record that an increasing number of patients are sent up by the general practitioners for diagnosis, and co-operation with the medical and nursing staff of the Dispensaries is satisfactory.

## 7. **Institutional Accommodation.**

The City Council have decided to increase the number of beds at the Osler Pavilion from 26 to 38. This increase should allow a longer period for the in-patient treatment, no waiting list and a few beds for the immediate admission of urgent cases.

In addition to the 12 new beds, it is hoped to build a theatre unit block which will be shared by the City, and County of Oxfordshire. The surgical treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis necessitates the provision of proper surgical facilities and when the unit is completed and a part time Thoracic Surgeon appointed, the Osler Pavilion will be fully equipped as a Chest Hospital.

The new Isolation Hospital, which contains a Tuberculosis Block of 14 beds, was opened early in 1939.

Hospitals and Sanatoria.

The Radcliffe Infirmary and County Hospital is the General Hospital of the district, and cases of Tuberculosis, whether Pulmonary or Non-Pulmonary, are admitted in an emergency, the City paying the current cost of maintenance.

The Osler Pavilion at Headington (a branch of the Radcliffe Infirmary) is a modern Tuberculosis Hospital built, staffed, and equipped for the purpose. The City reserve twenty-six beds, and these are kept fully occupied. During the year further additional beds were taken when available, both at the Osler Pavilion and other Sanatoria.

The Tuberculosis Block at the City Hospital is used for cases not requiring any special treatment.

The Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital takes in all cases of Bone and Joint Tuberculosis.

The Eye Hospital takes in all cases of Tuberculosis of the Eyes. Suitable cases are also sent to the various Sanatoria and Village Settlements.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1 .. ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 .. ..	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2
5—10.. ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
10—15.. ..	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	—
15—20.. ..	2	10	3	2	—	5	1	1
20—25.. ..	5	3	1	4	1	—	1	—
25—35.. ..	14	6	2	4	5	7	1	1
35—45.. ..	10	6	—	1	4	4	—	—
45—55.. ..	9	3	—	1	6	1	—	—
55—65.. ..	6	1	—	—	9	1	—	—
65 and upwards	3	1	2	—	4	—	—	—
Totals ..	50	31	13	17	29	18	4	5



### New Cases.

In addition to the cases notified in the ordinary way, the new cases include 10 “ transfers ” from other areas and 3 cases where the information was obtained from the Local Registrar’s Weekly Death Returns.

### Deaths.

There were 56 deaths from Tuberculosis which shows a decline on the figure for the previous year.

### Notification Register.

An analysis shows that of the 111 cases notified, 87 made use of the facilities provided by the City Council. Omitting those patients who were not notified prior to death and those suffering from Tuberculous Meningitis, etc., there were only 19 who did not receive public medical treatment. In other words 79.4 per cent of the notified cases took advantage of the City’s Tuberculosis Scheme.

### Progress of Notification.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1914	101	45	146
1915	73	33	106
1916	48	24	72
1917	51	18	69
1918	56	8	64
1919	70	22	92
1920	63	22	85
1921	79	27	106
1922	64	18	82
1923	50	20	70
1924	67	22	89
1925	63	15	78
1926	70	16	86
1927	47	17	64
1928	64	23	87
*1929	124	30	154
1930	103	16	119
1931	93	24	117
1932	92	26	118
1933	93	24	117
1934	110	20	130
1935	86	17	103
1936	87	36	123
1937	101	43	144
1938	81	30	111

\* City extended 1st April, 1929.



The average number of notifications during the past ten years is 123.6.

### Institutional Treatment.

The following table shows the number of patients who received institutional treatment:—

Institution.	Notified Cases.				Observation Cases				Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Osler Pavilion .. .. .	59	44	—	1	7	12	1	—	124
City Hospital .. .. .	27	12	—	—	1	—	—	—	40
Radcliffe Infirmary .. ..	6	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	14
Papworth Village .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wingfield-Morris Hospital ..	6	2	2	6	—	—	—	—	16
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital ..	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Berks, Bucks & Oxon Joint San.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Royal National San. .. ..	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Cold Ash .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3
Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of Chest .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals .. .. .	103	67	2	12	8	13	1	3	209

The number of individuals who received treatment during the year, not including the patients admitted to London Road Hospital and Cowley Road Hospital, was 179. Several patients received treatment in more than one Sanatorium or were discharged and re-admitted to the same Sanatorium during the year. Of the total of 209, 52 were in institutions on January 1st, 1938.

23 of the above died in institutions (City Hospital 11, Osler Pavilion 9, and Radcliffe Infirmary 3).

### Shelters.

Wooden shelters, large enough to accommodate a bed of average size, are erected in the gardens of notified cases in certain circumstances. In this way the danger of infecting relatives is minimised and the patient is enabled to live under an open air regime.

There were 16 shelters in use on the 31st December, 1938.

**X-ray Examinations.**

Patients are X-rayed at a special session held at the Osler Pavilion on Tuesday of each week.

It is the practice to submit to radiological examination all new patients after first attendance at the Dispensaries, old patients at periodic intervals, and any contacts whose condition warrants further investigations.

**Extra Nourishment.**

Milk was granted to 74 cases during 1938. One pint per day for one month is allowed, and the case is reviewed at the end of the period.

**Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.** (Compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.)

No action was taken during the year under this Section of the Act.

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.**

No action was taken under these Regulations during the year.

## Return showing the work of the dispensaries during the year 1938.

(Tables A and B of Memorandum 37/T (Revised) of the Ministry of Health.)

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.				GRAND TOTAL.	
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	30	18	1	1	6	8	2	2	36	26	3	3		68
* (b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	18	2	10		52
(c) Non-tuberculous .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	47	15	6		105
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year:														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—		2
* (b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	10	6		20
(c) Non-tuberculous .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	10	9	13		37
C.—CASES written off the dispen- sary register as:														
(a) Recovered .. .. .	5	—	1	1	2	—	2	2	7	—	3	3		13
(b) Non-tuberculous (includ- ing any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the dispensary register as tuber- culous .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65	92	43	35		235
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on dispen- sary register on 31st Decem- ber, 1938:														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	108	98	2	5	29	14	11	16	137	112	13	21		283
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	62	26	38		159

1. Number of cases on dispensary register on January 1st .. .. .	475	8. Number of visits by tuberculosis officers to homes (including personal consultations) .. .. .	127
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years ..	10	9. Number of visits by nurses or health visitors to homes for dispensary purposes .. .. .	1609
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases lost sight of .. .. .	48	10. Number of (a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with dispensary work .. ..	† 137 407
4. Cases written off during the year as dead (all causes) .. .. .	31	11. Number of recovered cases restored to dispensary register, and included in A(a) and A(b) above .. .. .	—
5. Number of attendances at the dispensary (including contacts) .. .. .	2376	12. Number of T.B. plus cases on dispensary register on December 31st .. ..	153
6. Number of insured persons under domiciliary treatment on the 31st December	9	13. Number of dispensaries for the treatment of tuberculosis (excluding centres used only for special forms of treatment) Provided by the Council .. .. . Provided by voluntary bodies .. ..	2 —
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners:— (a) Personal .. .. . (b) Other .. .. .	197 610		

\* i.e. remaining undiagnosed on 31st December.

† In addition 241 specimens of sputum were examined for general practitioners.

Return showing the results of observation of doubtfully tuberculous cases discharged during the year 1938 from institutions approved for the treatment of tuberculosis.

(Table F of Memorandum 37/T (Revised) of the Ministry of Health.)

Diagnosis on discharge from observation.	For pulmonary tuberculosis.						For non-pulmonary tuberculosis.						TOTALS.		
	Stay under 4 weeks.			Stay over 4 weeks.			Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks.					
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.
Tuberculous ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Non-tuberculous ...	1	1	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	1
Doubtful ...	—	1	—	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	1
Totals ...	1	2	—	7	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	13	2

Return showing the extent of residential treatment provided during the year 1938 in Poor Law institutions for persons chargeable to the Council.

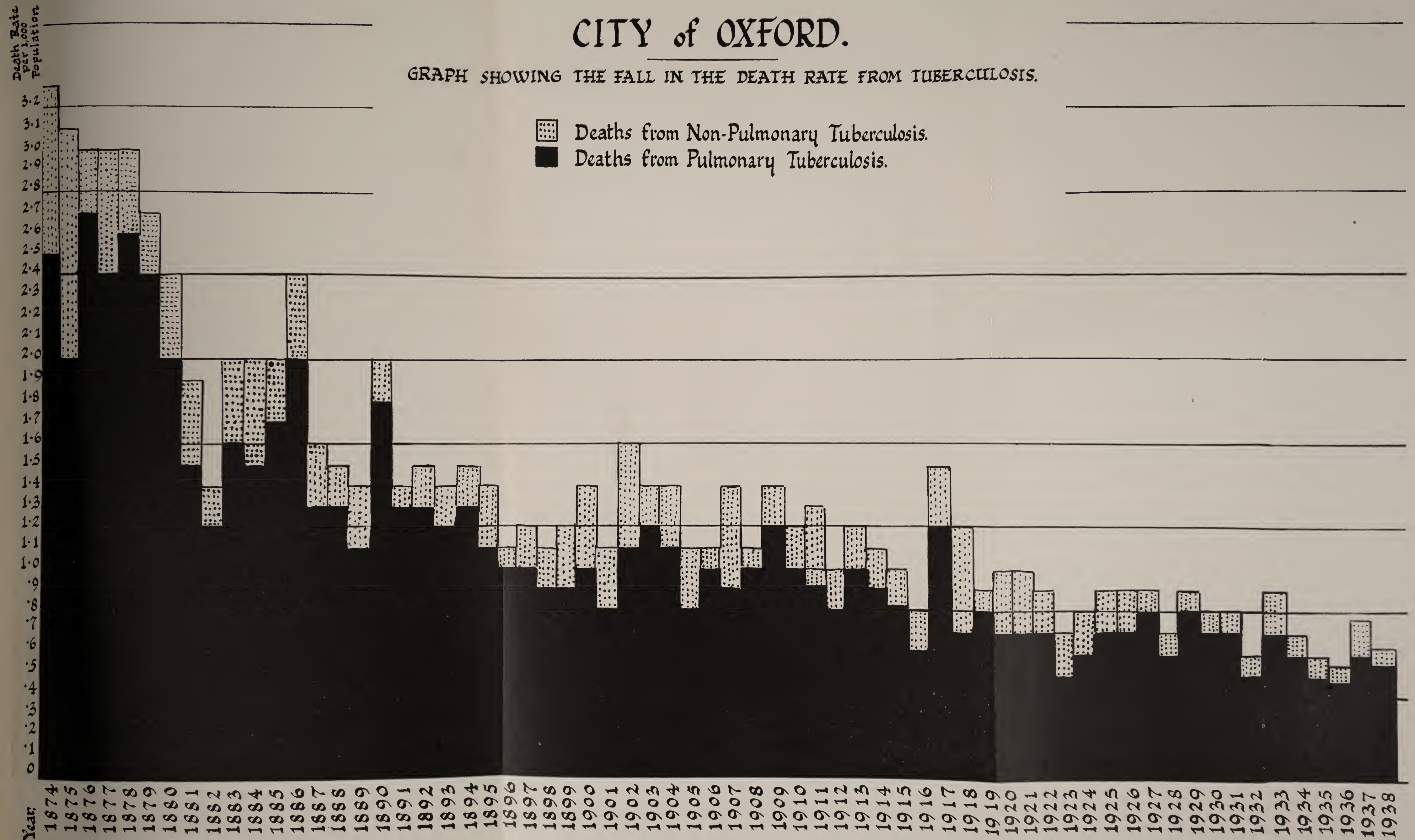
(Table E of Memorandum 37/T (Revised) of the Ministry of Health.)

				In institutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the institutions.	In institutions on Dec. 31.
Number of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis admitted for treatment ...	Adults	M.		1	2	—	1	2
		F.		—	—	—	—	—
	Children		—	—	—	—	—	
	Total ...		1	2	—	1	2	
Number of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis admitted for treatment	Adults	M.		—	—	—	—	—
		F.		—	—	—	—	—
	Children		—	—	—	—	—	
	Total ...		—	—	—	—	—	
GRAND TOTAL ...				1	2	—	1	2



# CITY of OXFORD.

GRAPH SHOWING THE FALL IN THE DEATH RATE FROM TUBERCULOSIS.







## SECTION VIII

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

REPORT BY DR. MARY FISHER, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.M.S.A.,  
ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

**Births.**

Registered live births

Male	..	..	..	952
Female	..	..	..	915
Total	..	..	..	<u>1867</u>

Of these births 66 were illegitimate.

Of the 1867 births, 1390 were Oxford residents. In addition 48 births to Oxford residents occurred outside the City, making a total of 1438 births allocated to the City. This gives a birth rate of 15.28.

(Birth rate for England and Wales—15.1).

**CLASSIFICATION OF BIRTHS OCCURRING IN THE CITY.***(a)* According to notifications.

	Live Births	Still Births
Notified by Midwives .. .. .	723	4
Notified by Doctors .. .. .	91	4
Born in Institutions and Nursing Homes ..	1015	52
Totals .. .. .	<u>1829</u>	<u>60</u>

(b) **According to place of birth** (Registered Births).

	Residents	Non-Residents
Born in Radcliffe Infirmary .. .. .	5	13
Born in Radcliffe Infirmary Maternity Home	454	415
Born in Public Institutions .. .. .	23	2
Born in Nursing Homes .. .. .	91	37
Born in private houses .. .. .	817	10
Totals .. .. .	1390	477

55 of the resident births and 11 of the non-resident were illegitimate.

(c) **Registered Births in Wards** (Oxford Births).

Ward	Live Births	Still Births
Summertown and Wolvercote .. .. .	138	8
North .. .. .	61	1
West .. .. .	100	4
South .. .. .	136	4
East.. .. .	161	8
Headington .. .. .	362	10
Cowley and Iffley .. .. .	432	10
Totals .. .. .	1390	45

**Maternal Mortality.**

There were three Oxford women who died in consequence of pregnancy or childbirth.

The Maternal Mortality rate for Oxford (deaths per 1,000 live and still births) was 2.02 (England and Wales 2.97).

**Notes on Cases.**

## CASE 1.

Aged 33. First pregnancy. Attended City Antenatal Clinic once. Found to have a breech presentation; version performed. There was also slight toxæmia. Admitted to Cowley Road Hospital and remained there under medical supervision till she went into labour. Transferred to the Radcliffe Infirmary for Caesarian section and died suddenly from pulmonary embolism 7 days after operation. Death unavoidable.



**CASE 2.**

Aged 24. First pregnancy. Patient had prolonged uterine haemorrhage early in pregnancy but failed to seek medical advice till it had continued for about a month. Admitted to Radcliffe Infirmary three days later, moribund. Blood transfusions given but she died in a few days. Death due to failure of patient to seek medical advice in time.

**CASE 3.**

Aged 31. Patient admitted to the Radcliffe Infirmary with pneumonia and pleurisy. Delivered of premature still-born twins. Developed septicaemia and died in spite of treatment with Prontosil. Post mortem refused. Childbirth probably a contributory cause of death.

**Midwives.**

38 Midwives were on the register at the end of the year:—

7 were employed by the Council as domiciliary midwives.

4 were employed by the Council in Public Assistance Institutions.

4 were employed as domiciliary midwives by Voluntary Associations under arrangements made with the Council in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act, 1936.

7 were employed by Voluntary Associations but did not act as midwives.

5 were employed as institutional midwives by Voluntary Associations.

8 were in private practice, of whom only 1 acted as a midwife and

3 were in private practice as institutional midwives.

**Notification to Local Supervising Authority.**

The midwife must, as soon as possible, send notice on the prescribed form to the Local Supervising Authority, in accordance with Rule 33 of the Central Midwives Board, in the following cases:—

(a) Medical Help (whenever the advice of a registered medical practitioner has been sought).

269 notifications of the calling in of medical help were received during 1938.

215 referred to help for the mother.

54 referred to help for the child.

The reasons given were:—

### Mother.

Ruptured perineum .. ..	105	Delay in 2nd stage .. ..	14
Pyrexia .. ..	22	Maternal distress 1st stage ..	2
Miscarriage .. ..	12	Maternal distress 2nd stage..	1
Threatened miscarriage ..	6	Breech.. ..	4
Ante-partum haemorrhage ..	8	Malpresentation .. ..	2
Post-partum haemorrhage ..	6	Painful fingers .. ..	1
Albuminuria .. ..	9	Painful leg .. ..	1
Toxaemia .. ..	1	Painful varicose veins ..	7
Cyanosis and Dyspnoea ..	2	Raised blood pressure ..	1
Abdominal pain .. ..	3	Swelling of labia .. ..	1
Precipitate labour .. ..	1	Inflamed breast .. ..	2
Retained placenta .. ..	1		
For anaesthetic .. ..	1	Total .. ..	215
Delay in 1st stage .. ..	2		

### Child.

Discharging eyes .. ..	40	Feebleness of baby .. ..	9
Injury to baby .. ..	1	Prematurity .. ..	2
Deformity of baby .. ..	1		
Swelling of baby's chin ..	1	Total .. ..	54

(b) Stillbirths. 4 notifications were received from midwives.

(c) Laying out the dead, in all cases which she has prepared or assisted to prepare the dead for burial. No notifications were received.

(d) Artificial feeding. 33 notifications were received.

(e) Liability to be a source of infection. One notification was received during 1938.

### Municipal Midwives.

The Municipal Midwives scheme has worked very satisfactorily.

Details of the number of cases attended by each Municipal Midwife, together with the one remaining independent midwife, are shown in the following table:—

**Municipal Midwives Returns—1938.**

<i>Midwife</i>				<i>As Midwife</i>	<i>As Mater- nity Nurse</i>	<i>Mis- carriages</i>	<i>Total</i>
A .. .. .				73	8	0	81
B .. .. .				68	9	5	82
C .. .. .				67	6	1	74
D .. .. .				48	12	7	67
E .. .. .				46	9	1	56
F .. .. .				42	3	0	45
Independent Midwife ..				21	4	0	25
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Totals	..		365	51	14	430
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Antenatal care of cases booked as midwives:—

Attended antenatal clinic .. ..	346
Attended own doctor for antenatal care ..	4
Refused to attend clinic or doctor .. ..	15
	<hr/>
	365
	<hr/>

Visits paid by Municipal Midwives to expectant mothers—1581.

**Visits by Health Visitors.**

To infants under 1 year .. .. .	8047
To children between 1 & 2 years .. ..	4208
"  "  "  2 & 3 .. .. .	3594
"  "  "  3 & 4 .. .. .	2700
"  "  "  4 & 5 .. .. .	1581
Special visits to sick children .. ..	910
 Total visits to children .. .. .	 21040

These figures show a considerable increase over those for the previous year.

## MATERNITY.

### (a) INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATION.

#### 1. Radcliffe Maternity Home.

This home continues to carry on a large part of the Maternity work for Oxford and the surrounding district. The Home has 42 beds, of which 7 are for paying patients, and 8 for antenatal conditions.

During 1938, 998 patients were admitted. There were 899 deliveries, 732 of which were conducted by midwives, and 167 by doctors.

#### Attendances at the Radcliffe Maternity Home Antenatal and Postnatal Clinics, 1938.

	First Attendances	Re- Attendances	Totals
Antenatal .. .. .	1253	6556	7809
Postnatal .. .. .	848	20	868
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals .. .. .	2101	6576	8677

#### 2. Cowley Road Hospital.

This hospital serves the needs of pregnant women who are unable to afford the services of a midwife for their confinement and who, having no abnormalities, have no claim on the Radcliffe Maternity Home free bed system.

#### 3. Private Maternity Homes.

There are 4 private maternity or maternity and nursing homes in the City, providing a total of 18 beds.



## (b) ANTENATAL WORK.

## Attendances at the Antenatal Clinics, 1938.

	First Attendances	Re-at- tendances	Total Attendances	No. of Sessions	Average Attendances
Headington Clinic	117	561	678	51	13.29
East Oxford Clinic	187	778	965	48	20.10
St. Aldate's Clinic	75	386	461	52	8.87
Donnington Clinic	139	714	853	52	16.40
Totals ..	518	2,439	2,957	203	14.57

## Postnatal Attendances.

There were 24 postnatal attendances during the year at the City Clinics.

## Analysis of patients requiring special attention, 1938.

	<i>St. Aldate's</i>	<i>Head- ington</i>	<i>Donning- ton</i>	<i>East Oxford</i>	<i>Total</i>
A. Advice given at Clinic for:					
1. Mild toxaemia .. ..	12	19	18	26	75
2. Indigestion .. ..	6	13	14	21	54
3. Anaemia .. ..	7	3	4	4	18
4. Weak muscles .. ..	5	4	4	1	14
5. Sterility .. ..	—	1	—	—	1
6. Varicose veins .. ..	4	8	11	8	31
7. Other medical conditions	13	14	10	18	55
B. Malpresentations corrected:	8	11	10	13	42
C. Special investigations:					
1. Wassermann reactions ..	—	—	—	1	1
2. Bacteriological examina- tions of urine .. ..	—	—	1	1	2
3. X-ray chest .. ..	—	1	—	—	1
4. Sputum examination ..	—	—	—	1	1

	<i>St. Aldate's</i>	<i>Head- ington</i>	<i>Donning- ton</i>	<i>East Oxford</i>	<i>Total</i>
D. Referred to private doctor:					
1. Toxaemia .. ..	2	8	3	8	21
2. Anaemia .. ..	—	—	2	2	4
3. Varicose veins .. ..	—	—	—	3	3
4. Obstetrical conditions ..	—	—	—	8	8
5. Urinary infections ..	1	1	2	2	6
6. Other medical conditions	1	1	3	7	12
E. Referred to Radcliffe Infirmary .. ..	—	1	2	—	3
F. Referred to Eye Hospital	—	—	1	1	2
G. Referred to Radcliffe Maternity Home:					
1. Toxaemia .. ..	1	—	2	1	4
2. Obstetrical conditions ..	5	4	8	5	22
3. Poor home conditions ..	1	1	—	—	2
4. Other medical conditions	—	2	1	—	3
H. Referred to City Birth Control Clinic for medical reasons .. ..	1	—	3	1	5
I. Dental treatment advised	24	33	47	40	144
J. Dental treatment accepted	7	19	23	17	66

## End Results of Antenatal Cases at City Clinics.

Result	St. Aldate's	Head- ington	Donn- ington	East Oxford	Total
Normal Delivery .. ..	49	90	107	140	386
Breech, otherwise normal ..	1	—	1	1	3
Face, otherwise normal ..	—	—	1	—	1
Twins, otherwise normal ..	1	—	—	2	3
Premature, otherwise normal ..	—	5	4	3	12
Instrumental .. ..	2	—	2	1	5
Stillbirth .. ..	—	—	—	1	1
Placenta praevia, induced ..	1	—	—	—	1
Spontaneous abortion .. ..	1	2	1	1	5
Post-partum haemorrhage ..	1	1	2	—	4
Sepsis following normal delivery	—	1	1	—	2
Stillbirth, induced .. ..	1	—	—	1	2
Anencephalic .. ..	—	—	1	—	1
Death, following Caesarean sec- tion .. ..	—	—	—	1	1
Normal delivery after induction	—	3	—	—	3
Premature, stillbirth .. ..	—	—	—	1	1
Eclampsia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Therapeutic abortion and steri- lisation .. ..	—	—	—	1	1
Not pregnant .. ..	1	4	4	1	10
Left district, result unknown ..	1	5	6	8	20
Total .. ..	59	111	130	162	462

By a "normal" delivery is meant a full-time vertex delivery without complications to mother or child. A torn perineum requiring stitches is not counted as a complication.

### Commentary.

The total number of attendances at the antenatal clinics show an increase of 187 over 1937.

On the whole the patients attended the clinic regularly. In nearly every case their attitude towards their pregnancy is very healthy. They appreciate, and indeed usually expect, the regular care and attention they receive. Repeated reassurance at the clinic that everything is normal is an important factor in enabling them to face their confinements with confidence.

Inspection of the analysis of cases shows that minor disabilities requiring advice at the clinic are very common; also that a large number

of patients have a sufficient degree of morbidity to be referred to their private doctor for treatment.

Unfortunately there is one death in a clinic patient to record, the first in six years. Details are given on page : 0 (case 1).

The table of end results shows, as usual, a very large proportion of normal deliveries. There were no cases of eclampsia and the figures for sepsis, stillbirths and instrumental delivery are low. It is thus justifiable to claim that the table provides proof of the utility of the clinics and the efficiency of the midwives.

The number of patients accepting dental treatment shows no improvement. It is difficult to know how to improve the attitude of the mothers towards this. It is of the greatest rarity to find a mouth which has received regular dental attention. Most mothers come to the clinic with bad teeth and a firm determination to do nothing about it, although they are ready to follow advice on every other matter.

It has again been found that muscular cramp can be relieved in every case by advising the mother to take calcium sodium lactate.

The working of the clinics has been smooth and satisfactory. Any Municipal Midwife who is free attends to assist with the work, while the Deputy Supervisor of Midwives is at all the clinics.

It is of the greatest value to have a first class obstetrical consultant service available. This is provided by the Nuffield Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Radcliffe Infirmary.

Co-operation between everyone concerned in the antenatal work is consistently good.

Postnatal work is still far from satisfactory. Though the municipal midwives invite their patients to attend the clinics for postnatal examination, the response is very poor. The solution seems to lie in the establishment of special postnatal sessions combined with intensive propaganda.

### **CHILD WELFARE.**

Owing to the outbreak of acute poliomyelitis reported in the Infectious Diseases section of this report, the Public Health Committee decided to close all Infant Welfare Centres east of Magdalen Bridge from October 11th, and on November 1st all Centres in the City were closed, remaining so until the end of the year. It was possible, however, throughout this period, for mothers to obtain foods and consult the doctor at the Centres. The closing of the Centres renders it unfair to compare total



attendances with previous years, but the average attendance shows an increase of 9.3. over 1937.

During the year a Thursday morning session was inaugurated at Donnington,

Weekly medical inspections were held at Cowley and Donnington, and three medical inspections a fortnight at Headington and East Oxford, whilst the remaining centres had fortnightly medical sessions.

In order to carry out this work the whole time medical staff had to be supplemented by a part time medical officer for one session a week.

The test-feeding scales which are lent to mothers in special cases were again found very useful in a number of instances during the year.

#### Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres, 1938.

Description of Centre	Number on Books	Total Attendances	Number of Sessions	Average Attendance
Headington .. .. .	561	6599	81	81.47
Cowley .. .. .	235	3157	39	80.95
East Oxford Health Centre—				
Friday .. .. .	152	2225	39	57.05
Monday .. .. .	105	1372	37	37.08
New Hinksey .. .. .	141	2033	39	52.13
St. Aldate's .. .. .	105	1423	42	33.88
Jericho .. .. .	157	2010	39	51.54
Osney .. .. .	168	1898	43	44.14
Summertown .. .. .	158	1765	43	41.05
St. Francis' Hall .. .. .	176	1458	40	36.45
New Marston .. .. .	308	1835	40	45.87
Wolvercote .. .. .	139	2253	43	52.40
Donnington :—Tuesday .. .. .	313	3958	41	96.54
Thursday .. .. .	40	50	10	5.00
Totals .. .. .	2756	32036	576	55.62

#### Infant Consultation Centre.

The Radcliffe Infirmary Consultation Centre is held on Thursdays, at 2 p.m., and conducted by Dr. P. C. Mallam, Honorary Physician to the hospital, and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health in his capacity as Clinical Assistant to the hospital. Difficult cases requiring a specialist's advice or laboratory investigation are referred to this Centre by the Medical Officers of Infant Welfare Centres and by private practitioners.

**Attendances of children under 5 at the Centre, 1938.**

New cases	..	..	..	100
Re-attendances		..	..	305
Total		..	..	405

**Analysis of Infants under 2 years of age, 1938.**

Marasmus	..	..	..	1	Other skin conditions	..	3
Glandular conditions		..		3	Neurological conditions	..	4
Nutritional disorders, including anaemia	..	..		12	Rickets	..	5
Chest disorders	..	..		3	Hernia	..	3
Asthma	..	..	..	6	Congenital heart	..	1
Abdominal conditions		..		1	Recurrent pyrexia (cause unknown)	..	2
Orthopaedic	..	..	..	1	Miscellaneous	..	8
Naevus	..	..	..	4			

**Iron for Nutritional Anaemia.**

Nutritional anaemia in infancy is a common condition which is readily prevented and cured by the administration of iron.

In 1938 arrangements were finally completed to enable mothers whose babies are in need of iron to obtain it through the Welfare Centres.

In suitable cases a dried milk containing iron is sold at the Centres, and in other cases the mother obtains iron and ammonium citrate from her own chemist at a reduced rate, on presentation of a prescription from the medical officer of the centre.

Necessitous mothers can obtain the iron in either form through the free milk and vitamin scheme.

**Hospital Admissions.****Admission to Hospital of children under 5 years.**

				Number	Deaths
Radcliffe Infirmary	..	..	..	257	20
Cowley Road Hospital	..	..	..	39	1
Totals	..	..	..	296	21

### Treatment of children under 5 at School Clinics.

119 children made 215 attendances under the arrangement made with the Education Committee, whereby children under 5 can obtain treatment for minor ailments at the School Medical Clinics.

### Infant Deaths.

80 infants under one year died in Oxford during 1938. Of these, 30 were non-residents although they died in the City. One death of an infant occurred outside the City, and was transferred in, as the permanent address was in the City. The corrected number of infant deaths is therefore 51.

The Infant Mortality Rate = 35.47 (England and Wales 53).

The Neo-Natal Mortality Rate = 22.25.

The causes of death at the various ages are set out in the following table.

Cause of Death	Weeks				To- tal	Months				Grand Total	Died in Institu- tions
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4		1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12		
Prematurity ..	9	2	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	11	9
Congenital malformations	8	—	1	—	9	2	—	—	—	11	4
Birth Injuries ..	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6	6
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy .. ..	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia ..	1	1	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	5	3
Diarrhoea ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	3	7	6
Bronchitis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—
Influenza .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Other defined Diseases	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	4	2
Totals ..	26	3	3	—	32	2	8	1	8	51	31



The following table shows the distribution of the Infant Deaths and Stillbirths in Wards:—

Ward	Births	Deaths under one year	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000births	Still- births	Stillbirths Rate per 1,000 live and still- births
Summertown and Wolvercote	138	5	36.23	8	54.79
North .. ..	61	—	—	1	16.13
West .. ..	100	3	30.00	4	38.46
South .. ..	136	6	44.12	4	28.57
East .. ..	161	4	24.84	8	47.34
Headington ..	362	19	58.01	10	26.38
Cowley and Iffley..	432	14	32.41	10	22.62
Totals ..	1390	51	36.69	45	31.36

The number of stillbirths registered in Oxford during the year was 70, 25 of which were transferred to other areas. Two Inward Transfers were received, making the total Oxford stillbirths 47.

The stillbirth rate for the year, per 1,000 live and stillbirths was 31.59 as compared with 35.21 in 1937.

**Infectious Diseases.**

*Ophthalmia Neonatorum.* 4 notifications were received.

Cases			Vision Unim- paired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	Home	Hospital				
4	2	2	4	—	—	—

*Puerperal Pyrexia.* 45 notifications were received, 26 of which were in respect of patients who came to the City for their confinement.

41 of the cases were treated in hospital.



*Pemphigus Neonatorum.* No case came to the notice of the Department during the year.

**Public Health Act, 1936, Section 187—Registration of Nursing Homes.**

6 Nursing and Maternity Homes are registered under the above Acts, with an accommodation of 33 beds.

The following hospitals and Nursing Homes are exempted from registration:—

Radcliffe Infirmary and County Hospital.

The Oxford Eye Hospital.

The Acland Home.

St. Basil's Home, Iffley Road.

St. John's Home, St. Mary's Road.

Nazareth House, Cowley Road.

The Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital.

There were no applications for registration during the year.

**Issue of free milk under the Public Health Act, 1936.**

76,296 pints of Pasteurised milk were given to 463 families during 1938. Dried milk was given in 56 special cases, 966 packets being issued.

Vitamin preparations were given to 323 families during the year.

**Children Act 1908 (Part I), Children and Young Persons Act, 1932 (Part V), and Public Health Act 1936, Sections 206—220.**

The 11 Health Visitors are appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors under these Acts.

At the end of 1938, 36 foster parents and 45 children were on the register.

A report of the cases is presented to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee quarterly.

**Postgraduate Lectures for Midwives and Nurses.**

Two postgraduate days were held at the Radcliffe Infirmary Maternity Home in April and November, and were well attended by the midwives and nurses of Oxford and District.

- (a) April      Asphyxia Neonatorum.  
                   Domiciliary Midwifery.  
                   Drugs: Recent Advances.
- (b) November    The First Stage of Labour.  
                   Albuminuria and Eclampsia.  
                   Causes and Prevention of Shock.

### BIRTH CONTROL.

A clinic to give contraceptive advice on medical grounds, conducted by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, is held at the Radcliffe Infirmary at 5.30 p.m. on Mondays.

During 1938 there was a total of 107 attendances, 15 being first attendances and 92 re-attendances.

#### Medical Indications.

Recent toxæmia of pregnancy	..	..	..	..	..	6
Rheumatic heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	2
Poor health as a result of frequent pregnancies	..	..	..	..	..	1
Repeated post-partum hæmorrhage	..	..	..	..	..	1
Mental incapacity	..	..	..	..	..	1
Recurrent acute rheumatism	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Husband tuberculous	..	..	..	..	..	1
Recent abortion and curettage	..	..	..	..	..	1

#### Follow up Scheme.

Patients are told to return if any difficulties arise, or if they need fresh supplies. They are asked to report in any case every three months. Those who fail to do so are visited by a Health Visitor, or in some instances letters are sent to them. If in spite of this they fail to report they are discharged from the clinic after due warning has been given them.

#### Source of Patients.

General practitioners	..	..	..	..	..	6
Postnatal clinic	..	..	..	..	..	3
Radcliffe Maternity Home	..	..	..	..	..	3
Infant Welfare Centres	..	..	..	..	..	1
Infant Consultation Centre	..	..	..	..	..	1
Chest Clinics	..	..	..	..	..	1

### Charges for Appliances.

Patients in receipt of free milk under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme and those receiving Public Assistance were supplied with free appliances at a total cost of £2 4s. 9d. Reductions in price amounting to 4s. 2d. were allowed in other cases. The remaining patients paid the full cost of their appliances.

### Results.

The following table shows the condition at the end of 1938 of all patients who have attended the clinic since it started in 1935, with the exception of those noted in previous reports to be no longer attending.

					<i>First seen in:—</i>				
					1935	1936	1937	1938	Total
Not pregnant, method satisfactory	..				2	6	15	12	35
Pregnant	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	1	6
Not pregnant, but discharged from clinic:									
(a) Failure to attend regularly	..				—	1	2	—	3
(b) No longer medical grounds for									
advice	..	..	..	..	—	4	—	2	6
Died of tuberculosis	..	..	..		—	—	1	—	1
Left district	..	..	..	..	—	1	—	—	1

The six “failures” were all patients who admitted that they had failed to carry out the advice given at the clinic.

The table shows that an appreciable number of patients have only temporary medical grounds for advice. For example, patients who have had a recent toxæmia of pregnancy with good recovery attend for about two years.

The clinic is still insufficiently used by general practitioners and the various hospital staffs. It appears that this is to some extent due to the fact that the clinic is not included in the Radcliffe time-table. This means that doctors forget about it and the constantly changing hospital resident staff never hear of it. It is hoped to remedy this fault by including the clinic in the next issue of the Radcliffe time-table for the medical profession.



## REPORT OF THE DENTAL OFFICER.

### Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Treatment.

I have the honour to present the report of dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers, and children of pre-school age for the year 1938.

Mothers were referred for examination by the Medical Officers at the Ante-Natal and Welfare Centres, and from the Radcliffe Infirmary Maternity Department.

Children attended for advice and treatment at the recommendation of the Medical Officers and Health Visitors, and as a result visits paid by the Dental Officers to the Welfare Centres. An increasing number of mothers now bring their children voluntarily to the Dental Clinics for advice.

Children under five years of age attending the City Elementary Schools were inspected and if necessary treated under the School Dental Scheme.

Treatment was given each Saturday morning at St. Aldate's and at Bury Knowle Clinics.

The number of patients sent for treatment, and the work done have increased considerably in the past year. As will be seen from the table the majority of mothers needed extraction of their teeth rather than conservative work, although 83 permanent teeth were filled.

The teeth of the majority of children up to three years were very good, but errors in feeding and lack of brushing are responsible for decay in subsequent years. The importance of brushing the teeth on going to bed cannot be over-emphasised, nor is any condemnation too great for the habit of sucking sweets or eating biscuits after retiring for the night.

### WORK DONE.

#### Numbers Treated:

Mothers .. ..	134	Attendances .. ..	370
Infants on Saturdays	129	„ .. ..	153
Infants at School ..	85	„ .. ..	85

#### Number of fillings:

Temporary teeth ..	61
Permanent teeth ..	83



## Number of extractions:

Temporary teeth	..	346
Permanent teeth	..	533

## Other operations:

Mothers	..	..	91	Infants	..	..	18
Scalings	..	..	39				
Artificial dentures	..		32				

Local or general anaesthetics were used for extractions.

J. F. ALLIN,  
*Senior Dental Surgeon.*

## SECTION IX

**CASUALTY SERVICES. AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.**

I stated in my introduction to this Report that the Casualty Services were responsible for a large amount of extra work outside the normal duties of the Public Health Services.

The duties of the Casualty Services are so interlocked with the normal work of the various Committees that it is difficult to separate them under their respective headings. For this reason, I am including a short summary of the work of the different Casualty Services up to April 1939.

The main services can be summarised as follows:—

- (1) Headquarters Staff,
- (2) The First Aid Parties,
- (3) The Ambulance Services,
- (4) The First Aid Posts,
- (5) The Casualty Hospitals,
- (6) The Nursing Services,
- (7) Disposal of the Dead.

**(1) Headquarters Staff.**

The Medical Officer of Health is designated as the controlling official for these services, and the Staff of the Public Health Department all take a subsidiary part in the service. In addition a First Aid Commandant has been appointed on a voluntary basis, and the City were fortunate in obtaining the services of Lieut. Colonel Bertram Rogers, R.A.M.C. (T.A.), retired, for this post. Many novel problems had to be solved and Colonel Rogers has been of the greatest assistance to me. Another volunteer officer on the Headquarters Staff is the Ambulance Officer, and this onerous post has been very ably filled by Mr. J. B. Tompson, assisted by Mr. L. S. White, Mr. W. B. Leavers and others. The extent of the work which these volunteers have undertaken can be judged by reference to the work of the various services. The City Council appointed Capt. E. W. Geidt, I.A. (retired) as a whole-time assistant in the Public Health Department for A.R.P. work in March 1938, and the brunt of the work has fallen on his shoulders.

I approached the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red

Cross Society very early in the work, and would like to place on record my appreciation of the unfailing help and courtesy I have always received from the officers and members of the Brigade, the officers of the St. John Ambulance Association and the British Red Cross Society. It would have been impossible to do the work without their help and co-operation, especially in regard to the preliminary training.

## **(2) The First Aid Parties.**

A Party consists of four men over 25 years of age and a driver of a private car to transport the Party.

The Home Office have sanctioned the provision of 30 First Aid Parties for the City, with a 50% reserve, i.e., 225 volunteers. Of these 75 volunteers can be taken on on a whole-time basis in time of war.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade have agreed to organise these Parties and to try to find sufficient volunteers among their members and Auxiliaries to form the Parties, but it is a difficult problem and the response so far for whole-time service is very disappointing.

It is hoped it may be possible to arrange that in each First Aid Party at least one man (and preferably two) will be a uniformed regular member of the Brigade, the rest of the party being made up with Auxiliaries.

The position with regard to the drivers of First Aid Party Cars is unsatisfactory, since it is uncertain whether it will be possible to commandeer for this purpose private cars either in the hands of private individuals or in the hands of the motor trade. Of those now enrolled for this duty a small proportion have suitable cars which they have volunteered to use; others have cars which are too small for the purpose; others again have no cars of their own or that they could supply. Of the last category several are men who originally enrolled for ambulance driving, but since receipt of their applications instructions have been received that ambulances will be driven by women volunteers only.

The preliminary training of volunteers for First Aid Parties consists of First Aid and Anti-Gas courses. Their subsequent training as Parties is being arranged by the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

## **(3) Ambulance Services.**

These services are under the control of the Ambulance Transport Officer, and, with the exception of the Headquarters Staff, the personnel are practically all women.



The personnel sanctioned by the Home Office allows for 90 drivers, 90 attendants and 60 drivers of cars for sitting cases, a total of 240, with a reserve of 25%. Of these volunteers 120 can be recruited on a whole-time basis in war, and I do not anticipate any very great difficulty in obtaining the necessary numbers. Recruiting is proceeding reasonably well and a large proportion of the volunteers are fully trained.

The training consists of:—

- (a) A First-Aid course,
- (b) An Anti-Gas course,
- (c) Commercial van driving,
- (d) Night driving,
- (e) Trailer Ambulance driving,
- (f) Geography Tests of the locality.

The volunteers are enthusiastic and efficient at their work.

The Ambulance Transport Officer and his assistants have had the difficult task of obtaining the necessary vehicles. The following vehicles are now available:—

- 5 Trailer Ambulances taking 6 stretchers each,
- 2 commercial vans taking 2 stretchers each.

The authority of the Traffic Commissioners is still awaited for the earmarking of the remaining necessary vehicles, but pending this authority promises have been received from commercial firms to provide the following vehicles:—

- (a) To be taken over permanently on the outbreak of hostilities, 2 vans taking 4 stretchers each, and 3 vans taking 2 stretchers each:
- (b) To be available for use as ambulances on the occurrence of an air raid in the locality, and at other times to be available for their ordinary commercial work, 17 vans taking 2 stretchers each.

Four more vehicles in each of these two categories (a) and (b) will be required. At present no promises have been received for these.

In addition it is hoped to be possible to make use of the existing permanent ambulances now in possession of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the Police and the Fever Hospital.

#### **(4) The First Aid Posts.**

The Ministry of Health and the Home Office have sanctioned the provision of 6 Fixed First Aid Posts and 3 Mobile First Aid Posts for the City.



In the case of Fixed First Aid Posts the personnel of each consists of a doctor in charge, a trained nurse and 40 volunteers (33 women and 7 men), plus a reserve of 25%. In the case of Mobile First Aid Posts the personnel consists of a doctor, a nurse, and 18 women volunteers. The total personnel required therefore, excluding the doctors and nurses, is 294 plus 60 reserves.

These volunteers are unpaid and are expected to work in shifts. The problem of staffing the posts is difficult and intricate. The numbers of enrolled volunteers on paper are quite adequate, but great difficulty is being experienced in fitting in the shifts, and a large proportion of the volunteers can put in only a short time per day. A special A.R.P. Assistant has been appointed to try to expedite the solution of the problem.

With regard to the premises allocated for First Aid Posts the following buildings have been approved by the Ministry of Health.

- (1) Summertown Memorial Hall,
- (2) St. Aldate's Boys' School,
- (3) Cowley Road Hospital,
- (4) London Road Hospital.
- (5) The Poplars Poor Law School.

A sixth Post in the centre of the City is still under consideration.

The staffs of the City Engineer and the City Estates Surveyor have undertaken the work in connection with the structural alteration and equipment of the First Aid Posts.

A 2-ton Fordson van has been purchased and equipped as a Mobile First Aid Post and two other vans have been earmarked for this purpose, to be taken over on the outbreak of hostilities.

The preliminary training of the personnel of the Posts consists of First Aid and Anti-Gas Courses. Subsequently they undergo collective training in the duties they might expect to have to perform under the supervision of doctors and trained nurses.

#### **(5) The Casualty Hospitals.**

The Ministry of Health are responsible for the Casualty Hospitals, and, strictly speaking, they are not the concern of the Local Authority, but in practice the Medical Officer of Health acts as agent for the Ministry of Health Hospital Officers, and some of the Institutions and Hospitals belong to the Local Authority.

In this area the problem has been simplified to a certain extent by the utilisation of the services of the Oxford and District Joint Hospitals'

Board. The Board has appointed a Hospital Officer for this purpose who works in close touch with the Medical Officer of Health.

The Cowley Road Institution is being up-graded to act as a Casualty Hospital together with the voluntary hospitals in the City.

#### **(6) The Nursing Services.**

The Medical Officer of Health is the local agent for the Central Nursing Committee, and a joint local committee has been formed with the County of Oxfordshire under the Chairmanship of Mr. E. C. Bevers, F.R.C.S., to collate the nursing services in the area. Mr. Douch has agreed to act as Hon. Secretary, and the Committee is representative of the nursing services generally.

It is the function of the local committee to get a register and train suitable persons as Nursing Auxiliaries. It is estimated that about 1300 Nursing Auxiliaries will be required in the City, in addition to about 2000 in the County, including the members of the British Red Cross Society's Voluntary Aid Detachments and the St. John Ambulance Brigade Nursing Divisions.

The functions of the Civil Nursing Reserve are:—

- (a) To supplement the existing nursing staffs of hospitals, institutions, etc.,
- (b) To supplement the staffs of First Aid Posts,
- (c) To supplement the District Nursing Staffs in reception areas.

The Nursing Auxiliaries are required to take a course of First Aid and Home Nursing, and have to do from 50 to 96 hours training in Hospitals.

#### **(7) Disposal of the Dead.**

This very necessary service is being organised by the Chief Clerk of the Public Health Department (Mr. H. G. Annely) who is enlisting the help of the local undertakers and the cemetery authorities.

## VETERINARY OFFICER'S 8TH ANNUAL REPORT

MR. MAYOR, CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES CONCERNED IN  
THE VETERINARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOLLOWING DUTIES FOR WHICH  
I AM RESPONSIBLE:—

I have the honour to submit my Eighth Report Annual for the period from Jan. 5th, 1938, to Jan 5th, 1939, of the Services carried out under the following Committees:—

### **Sewage Disposal.**

During the year, 56 visits have been made to the farm at Littlemore for inspection and treatment of horses, and monthly reports sent to the Chairman. The horse "Duke" was destroyed on account of age and incurable disease. Two new horses were purchased in April, and have proved satisfactory. All eight horses are in regular work, except one, "Captain" which I recommend for casting on account of age, chronic lung disease and lameness. The bay horse "Jolly" is also beyond his period of usefulness owing to age and bone disease in the fore feet; he should be replaced before the winter, when the work is very heavy and difficult. In spite of which the health and condition of the horses is usually good reflecting credit on all concerned.

### **Public Health.**

On several occasions during the past year I have collaborated with the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector on Veterinary pathological matters, affecting Public Health and food supply of the City.

### **Contagious Diseases of Animals controlled through the Chief Constable's Office.**

From January 1st to March 31st, 1938, there were no cases of contagious diseases reported,—an unusual quiescent period. On April 1st the Agriculture Act came into force and under the Veterinary Centralization Scheme, contagious diseases of Animals were taken over for administration by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The diseases, etc., controlled now are: Anthrax, Swine Fever, Foot and Mouth, Tuberculosis, and Inspections of Cattle Markets (partly), Mange, Milk and Dairies Orders Attested and Accredited herds, causing a very serious depletion of income



to the practising Veterinary Surgeon who is not on the whole-time staff of the Animals Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and has had to surrender the greater portion of his country practice in accordance with Clause IV of this Act.

### **Markets and Fairs.**

Weekly inspections of the Cattle Market were made by me from January to April 1st on behalf of the City. These inspections are now carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture whole and part time Veterinary Officials, of which I am one of the latter.

### **Sheriff of Oxford—(Port Meadow).**

Several cases of neglect and cruelty have been reported to the Sheriff, and have been visited, treated and relieved at the expense of the Corporation when the owner could not be found. I am hoping that my repeated suggestions in regard to marking and registration of all animals turned out on the meadow will eventually be acted upon. The branding of a small number into the horn or foot would answer the purpose of identification if a careful register of the names and addresses of owners was kept by an appointed Park Ranger.

### **Education, Poor Law, etc.**

Animals belonging to these Committees have received necessary attention and treatment.

### **Air Raid Precautions, Animals Scheme.**

It is suggested by the National Veterinary Association that this service is co-ordinated (through the general A.R.P. service) under a Veterinary Administrator, attached to the Animal Protection Committee of the Home Office; who would appoint local Veterinary Surgeons resident in each district to carry out the scheme according to a definite plan now being formulated, for immediate use as urgent necessity arises.

*(Signed)* FREDK. J. TAYLOR, M.R.C.V.S.



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